### FORCED TO GIVE IN.

Women College Graduates Must Wear the Cap and Gown.

THEY FOUGHT HARD AGAINST IT

On the Score of Looks, but Were Finally Obliged to Yield.

ONE MALE GRADUATE 72 YEARS OLD

[SPECIAL TELEGRAM TO THE DISPATCH.] NEW YORK, June 6.-This has been notable year in the history of the University of the City of New York in two ways. The authorities have admitted women to the law department and have recognized pedagogy as a legitimate university course of study. The commencement of the women law students passed with nothing to jar its beauty or harmony. But the women who make up the graduating classes of the school of pedagogy are not content to finish their university career thus quietly. There are two graduating classes in the schoolone to whose members is awarded the degree of Doctor of Pedagogy and one whose members get the degree of Master of Peda-

In the first class there are 2 women and 12 men; in the second class 1 man and 11 women. Two of these women are colored, one being a full-blooded negress, who is about as clever a woman as there is in the school. Now the average age of the class of doctors is 50 years and the women do their share of contributing toward this average. Of the women of the class of masters many are not so young as they once were, and none wears her hair down her back.

Nothing Frisky About Them.

They are a sensible and staid lot of women, but with no great friskiness, which is the ordinary characteristic of the girl graduate. Yet, strange to say and terrible to relate, a contention has arisen among them, based for the most part on the question of looks. For half a century each and every student graduating from the univer-sity has had to wear the flat-top Oxford cap and the flowing black gown.

When it came to the graduating women Dr. McCrackin, who is a Scotchman of the ancient school, ordered that the women should graduate in gowns and cap, also. This was not an unprecedented order, as the enstem prevails in a score of women's colleges in various parts of the country. Nor did the majority of these women of the school of pedagogy object. But there were about half a dozen who did object, with entreaties that were almost tearful, while there was one who set her foot down, as it were, and swore by the honor of woman-hood that she would wear no gown and would wear no cap.

No Cap and Gown for Them. The wrangle was long and elaborate. The dissenting women divided into two factions, which agreed in only one point, to wit: That the cap and gown should not be worn. The first and stronger wing of the dissent-ers formulated their views after this fashon, as one of them said this evening: "In the first place, we have bought graduating gowns. It does not come to a girl to graduate every year, and we want to make it a memorable occasion. Now, we paid particular attention to the gowns, adorning them with ribbons and laces and other fine work, which set off our appearance and showed those who saw the gowns that the wearers were girls with good taste. All this pains and beauty will be spoiled by the

long black gowns."

The other wing of the dissenters approached the subject from a different standpoint. They admit the force of some of the above reasoning, while they deplore its frivolous character. But they have reasons

of their own not at all frivolous. Said one of them: "I am a strong advocate of woman as woman. I don't believe in unsexing myself.' And to wear a man's gown and a man's hat on a public platform is a conspicuous display of masculinity. It will not only make men laugh at us as unwomanly, but it will make us ashamed of ourselves for having unsexed ourselves. We want to wear a woman's garments in public and thus appear in womanly dignity."

They Will Be Worn.

and thus appear in womanly dignity.

They Will Be Worn.

To these arguments the authorities nave answers which they deem good and sufficient. They say that there are some of the graduates who have plenty of money and can buy elegant gowns of white and lace and ribbons for that purpose, while there are others who could only afford the simplest and cheapest gowns. As for the caps, the authorities say that if a bang cannot be worn with the cap, then the ladies will have to display the lofty marble of their brows and discard the trumpery of curls and waves. They further go into the æsthetic features of the matter and suggest that there may be coquetish angles at which caps may be laced upon the head, and that the cap may be made to enhance beauty and hide plainness of features.

of features.

The authorities are determined and the gowns will be worn. In fact, the rebellious graduates have come into line, and have ordered their caps and gowns, and the making of them is under way. In the class of doctors is a principal of a Brooklyn school. He was 68 years old when he entered the school, and he is now 72, the oldest person ever graduated from a university in this country. of features.

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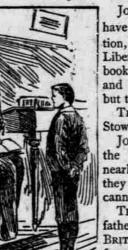
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