

Sesame

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Women or Girls ?

 NCE when the world was young and certain sober graduates were animated juniors, there was raised in the south-west corner of University College the question as to the relative merits of the terms "college girl" and "university woman" as descriptive of the Sesame section of undergraduates. As usually happens in such arguments, no one was ultimately convinced of anything she had not believed at first; but one or two ideas, which won emphasis from the unanimity with which they were held, were on this wise:—University undergraduates form a distinct class with special privileges and responsibilities; hence some name should be theirs which would distinguish them from students of other conditions.

The terms girl and boy as applied to hearty, merry humanity, anywhere between babyhood and gray hairs, find many kindly supporters, both inside the university and outside, people who shrink from robbing youth of anything of its careless, light-heartedness even in name. But the epithet college is plainly open to objection as indistinctive of university students, through its many other applications. A lad of twelve at Upper Canada is a "college boy"; while girls' boarding schools all over the country, taking contagion from their inmates perhaps, are developing a singular disposition to change their names, and now have their cards very commonly struck Ladies' College. The term college boy or college