

TWO SECRET SOCIETIES UNITED. DELTA TAU DELTA AND THE RAINBOW SO- CIETY JOIN HANDS.

Last December committees from Delta Tau Delta, a college fraternity with chapters in Northern colleges, and the Rainbow Society, a college organization in the South, met at Nashville, Tenn., and drew up articles of consolidation. This action was ratified by the chapters of both fraternities, and a few days ago witnessed the consummation of the agreement. The Delta Tau Delta fraternity dates its origin from Jan. 1, 1860, at Bethany College, West Virginia. It now has 31 well-established undergraduate chapters and a total membership of 3,000. The Rainbow Society, or as it is sometimes designated, the W. W. W., was organized in 1848, in the University of Mississippi, at Oxford, Miss. It has chapters in a number of Southern colleges, and it aims to be very exclusive. It now numbers 700 Alumni members and about 100 undergraduates.

W. W. Cook, a lawyer, of this city, whose office is at No. 115 Broadway, is the President of the General Convention of Delta Tau Delta, and represented the fraternity at the Nashville conference. Speaking yesterday of the consolidation, he said: "The object was for our fraternity to get a standing in good universities of the South and the Rainbows had a corresponding design toward the Northern colleges. The Rainbow Society adopted the organization and general mode of government of the Delta Tau Delta and became part of one of the four divisions of our fraternity. Instead of a chapter to head our organization, we have an Executive Committee of nine members—five Alumni and one undergraduate from each of the four divisions. This council has legislative power at all times except during the three days' annual convention. The President of the council has almost absolute control. This gives quick action over the old method of governing college fraternities and has enabled us to institute new chapters, publish records, and to form this valuable connection that unites us with the South."

At the next convention of the joint societies, which will occur at Toledo in August, the ceremonies of mutual initiation will occur, and delegates will be present representing all parts of the country, from California to New-England and from Michigan to Texas. The Delta Tau Delta has a chapter of 20 members at Columbia College, organized in 1862, with rooms at No. 15 West Forty-second-street. There was also recently organized in this city an Alumni chapter, with strict rules limiting its numbers, of which Will Carleton, the poet, is the President.

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