

WOMAN'S COLUMN.

(By Ella L. Mahammitt.)

Albeit the Board of Directors of the Tennessee Centennial, is being importuned to postpone the exposition until 1897, the work of preparation is being steadily pushed forward for the formal opening in June. The chief of the Woman's Department is Mrs. Hugh L. Craighead; and of the Negro Department, Mr. J. C. Napeir. Apropos of the latter, the Centennial News has the following to say: "The Negro department is being pushed right along. J. C. Napeir, chief, and his executive committee are greatly encouraged over the outlook. So far every effort in enlisting the sympathy and support of the colored people of the state has been most successful. Interest in the department is increasing. Such deep concern is manifest that it is a certainty that the space allowed will be taxed to the uttermost. The exhibits in the Negro building will be of a most interesting nature, and will do much towards giving a correct idea of what the new Negro in the South is doing." But particularly are our readers interested in what the colored women are doing in the matter. It is gratifying to know that our women in Tennessee are thoroughly aroused, and that they have engaged heart and hand to make the Negro department of the Tennessee Centennial, another wonderful object lesson to the world. Already there has been chosen a Colored Woman's Executive Committee, which is now engaged in appointing commissioners in every county in the state, and the hope is to also send out canvassers in every direction to help the commissioners in their work. The women are also preparing to discuss plans with their chief, and offer valuable suggestions on the construction of the Negro building, especially on the portions of the building designed to be occupied by them.

In this, as in all former progressive movements of our people, our sympathy is awakened, and we believe we but give expression to the thoughts of any true Western woman, when we say to our sisters in Tennessee—"Your cause is worthy; your interests and ours are identical. do your best."