

in regard to promotion are being voiced by *Truth*, which states that, while staff nurses were led on joining to expect that they would be promoted to sisters' posts in from one to three years, there are at present 89 with more than three years' service, and the prospect of promotion is extremely remote, as there are only about four promotions from staff nurse to Sister every year. Now that the Service has its full complement of Matrons, Sisters, and Staff Nurses, promotion is inevitably slow, for one of the attractions to those holding the higher posts is the pension which they will ultimately earn. But nurses should realise this on entering the Service, as it is a mistake for women of ability to continue to work as staff nurses until they let all the desirable civilian posts pass by them.

The Bishop of Kingston, the President of the Guild of Service, invited the members to a most enjoyable party in his garden at Kingston House on the evening of the 15th inst. The Guild is founded to nourish and foster religious life among Poor Law officials. Branches are being started in different parts of the country. Soon after 6 o'clock the guests began to arrive, by far the largest proportion being nurses. Refreshments were handed round out of doors, and various games, such as bowls, Aunt Sally, &c., were very popular. A band played, and several couples danced on the grass.

Before the guests had to separate, the Bishop, standing on a raised seat under a tree, spoke words of encouragement and cheer. He said he felt the Guild was getting its roots firmly embedded and was spreading over the country. He considered that those present were doing the noblest and least repaying work in caring for the wrecks of life and trying to

raise the tone and bring comfort to those in trouble. He described a little girl carrying a large child, and on being asked if it wasn't a heavy burden, said, "Oh no; it's my brother." He hoped the Guild would not only bind all the members together as brethren, but would also help them to bear the burden of the often hopeless and helpless lives of those to whom they had to minister.

Archdeacon Escreet, the Warden of the Guild, was also present, and Prebendary Ingram proposed a vote of thanks to the Bishop, which was carried with acclamation.

Mrs. Woodward, 12, West Cromwell Road, the Hon. Organizing Secretary, would be glad to hear from any wishing to join the Guild.

Through the kindness of the Secretary of the Universities' Mission to Central Africa we are able to publish the accompanying portrait of Miss Mary Ann Harriett Allen, of whose work in the early days of the Universities' Mission in Zanzibar we have already given some account. Miss Allen, accompanied by two

nurses who had worked with her at King's College Hospital, threw herself into the dispensary work on her arrival in 1875, "glorifying," says *Central Africa*, "in the difficulties and limitations which met her on all sides, for in those early days there were actually no facilities for nursing, very small accommodation for the sick, next to no food for invalids, and drugs were as precious and hard to get as gold.

"In spite of all these drawbacks, Miss Allen worked some wonderful cures and quickly established her reputation as a healer among the Africans—indeed, she was the pioneer of the hospital work, and for this alone the



MISS MAY ALLEN.

[previous page](#)

[next page](#)