

during the winter season, crowded to overflowing with hungry tourists. There are no places of interest to visit, and little to do besides sea-bathing in Lake Timsah, and donkey-riding along famous broad roads lined with sweet-smelling trees.

A fresh-water canal runs from Cairo to supply the waterworks, and the consequent mixture of fresh and salt water since 1869 is thought by the inhabitants to be responsible for the malarial fever for which Ismailia has of late years become unpleasantly noted in a country where malarial diseases are very rare.

There is a French hospital beautifully situated outside the town, and a French and a Greek doctor. The monuments now in the square at Ismailia, cut in Syene granite and diorite from Assouan, were brought from the ruins of Pithom, about twelve miles west of Ismailia. Pithom was apparently one of the garrison towns built by the Israelites for Rameses II. in the land of Goshen, and near it they encamped upon the second night of the Exodus, just as Lord Wolseley did in 1882 in the same district, now called Kassassin. The third night the fleeing Israelites halted close to Ismailia, and on the fifth day of their flight they are believed to have crossed the sea about half-way between Ismailia and Suez.

Ismailia is one of the cleanest and dullest towns