

Ramleh has been a wonderfully healthy spot; but the day will come when the subsoil will be saturated with all the water used for the gardens, baths, and kitchens, and some scheme of drainage will be necessary.

The *water-supply* is pumped straight from the canal of the Alexandria Company, unfiltered, to a reservoir, and thence to Ramleh at the rate of 12,000 cubic metres a day. For use in the house, it is then filtered through native porous jars. The greater part of the water is of course used for the private gardens, where, besides many English flowers and fruits, one sees oleanders, point-settias, hibiscus, bougainvillia, begonia trees, indiarubber trees towering almost as high as the palms, and grapes, bananas, oranges, figs, and melons. The desert abounds in a great variety of small flowers; and one of the features of this neighbourhood is the ice-plant (*Mesembryanthemum cristallinum*). Altogether the botanist will find more than two hundred specimens of interest in and near Ramleh, while the sea-coast is covered with beautiful shells.

*Amusements.*—The English residents boast of as many as fifteen lawn-tennis courts, a book-club, and even a race meeting during two days in June. There are paper chases on ponies and donkeys, and an occasional gymkhana, or cricket-match, when