

insects, and afterwards to sleep well. The families of European officials usually leave for Europe at the beginning of June, but some ladies only leave Egypt every other summer. Sand-grouse and *bee figues* (fig-eaters). Grapes, almonds, peaches, figs, and melons in June; and in August, in addition, there are mangoes, dates, and custard-apples. Dahlias, zinnias, periwinkle, tuberose, and the perennial hibiscus.

*September.*—This is a hot, damp month, the most trying of the year. The temperature is decidedly lower than in the three preceding months, and there is no rain; but the Nile flood and inundation produce a state of dampness which, together with the comparative heat, is trying for Europeans. Judged by the thermometer alone, the month is not unlike May in Cairo, but the raising of the humidity from 48 to 62 per cent. makes all the difference. Grey quail reach Egypt. Cotton-picking begins. Prickly pears, bananas, and summer fruits and flowers.