for the year ending June 30th 1884.
And fifteen Pamphlets of Consular reports on commerce, manufactures, etc., numbers 20, 21, 22, 24, 25, and 26.

I remain, Sir, Respectfully,
Your obedient Servant

Consul

No 22.

U. S. Consulate at
Jerusalem June 2d 1883.

Hon.ble Frederick T. Frelinghuysen,
Secretary of State
Washington.

Sir,

Permission is hereby asked to be absent from this Post for a period of thirty days during the hot season, said period to commence on or about the first of August 1883. The health of my wife or my own may require a change for a few weeks to the Lebanon Mountains, and it is on this account that the present request is made. The Lebanon Mountains, are only two days distant from this Consular Post, and Samuel Bergheim our Vice Consul will be left in charge of the office should I find it necessary to avail myself of the permission now asked for.

I remain, Sir, respectfully
your obedient Servant.

Consul

No 23.

U. S. Consulate at
Jerusalem June 6th 1883.

Hon.ble John Davis.
Assistant Secretary of State.
Washington.

Sir,

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your Circulars of the 8th and 12th of February, the 26th and 31st of March, and the 11th of April respectively.

Your despatch No 12 of the 19th April with regard to stationery, flags, books etc., needed at this Consulate, is received.

I remain, Sir, respectfully,
Your obedient Servant.

Consul

No 24

U. S. Consulate at
Jerusalem, June 15th 1883

Hon.ble John Davis
Assistant Secretary of State
Washington

Sir.

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your despatches numbers 13 and 14 of the 11th and 12th May respectively.

In compliance with the wishes of the State Department as expressed in your despatch No 13, I enclose herewith a Statement showing the name and nationality of all persons officially connected with this office and the Jaffa Agency, the dates of their appointment, together with their duties and salary.

In regard to the necessity for the retention of these persons in office at this Consulate and at the Jaffa Agency, our only Agency in Palestine, I will say that the work cannot be carried on with a less number of men. The only person now on the soll that can possibly be spared is the assistant Dragoman at this Consulate.

On the other hand it will be noticed that we have but three Kawasses or Guards, and there are frequently times during the winter season when we absolutely need four. The circumstances at this Consulate are peculiar. The four hundred to six hundred travellers who visit Jerusalem during the year are all dependent to a great degree upon the Consul. For instance, they cannot visit the Jordan and the holy places connected with it unless the Consul sends and officially recognized guard with them, and likewise obtains from the local government, by a written order, a Turkish guard to accompany them also. Were not these precautions taken, Americans, or any other foreigners, attempting to visit the Mosque would be insulted and stoned and

and quite likely killed by fanatical Moslems. Often three or four parties wish to visit the Mosque on the same day, and we are sometimes obliged to make parties wait for one or two days until a guard can be spared to accompany them.

At the Jaffa Agency there are two dragomans. Jaffa, as the sea port of Palestine, is an important post. An intelligent and efficient officer is needed there because a great deal of responsibility devolves upon him. The Dragomans are unpaid and have business of their own. Sometimes it is very inconvenient for them to leave their business to attend to the demands of the Consulate, and this difficulty is in part obviated by having two dragomans instead of one.

As to the list of foreigners who receive the protection of this Consulate and Jaffa Agency, I will state that protection is not given to any persons except to those who are in the active service of the Consulate and the Agency, and also to those who have been naturilized in the United States and who carry passports from the State Department or from the United States Legations abroad. Of this class there are One hundred and sixty seven persons at Jerusalem and Jaffa which together with the Thirty five born citizens, makes Two hundred and two persons under our protection. See my despatch number 16 of January 2 1888, enclosures numbers 8 and 9.-

I trust the Department will not consider that I am going outside of my sphere when I venture to suggest certain modifications in the Consular service in Palestine which our interests seem to require.

The government demands efficient men and has a right to require and expect of them efficient service. But it seems not to have occurred to our law makers that compensation for such service should be arranged on a basis of justice; that for the service which the government requires a reasonable compensation should be made. In my judgment the government ought not to lay such responsibility as are laid upon its officials in Jaffa without some compensation. The Agent, also one dragoman, and one Kawass ought to receive a small but stated salary.

In like manner the two paid Kawasses at this Consulate ought to receive just double the amount which they receive at present. They are faithful men and devote their entire time to the service of the government. The Interpreter here ought to receive Six hundred dollars instead of Four hundred dollars as at present, and the Consul

two

thousand dollars instead of One thousand five hundred dollars. The expense of living in Jerusalem is one third greater than it is in Beirut, and house rent is nearly double, although as regards population Beirut is as large again as Jerusalem.

As another item which could be more justly arranged I will refer to the matter of Miscellaneous expenses. At this post the Consul must incur a number of such expenses which he is prohibited by the Consular regulations from introducing into his account, but which it would seem to be clearly the duty of the government to pay. Take the single item of official receptions. Princes, Generals, and many persons of high rank visit Jerusalem every year. To some of these persons it is customary to give an official reception. The Vice Consul, or the Dragoman and the Kawasses from each Consulate are sent out, mounted, to Kulonieh, a station one hour from Jerusalem on the Jaffa road, where the person is met and escorted into the city. There are sometimes six and sometimes a dozen such occasions during the year, and the horses for each occasion cost the Consul from six to ten dollars. The Consul cannot avoid taking part in these ceremonies. But on the other hand he cannot afford to pay these bills, as of course he is obliged to do, from his meagre Salary.

The Consul after having paid his own expenses from America to Jerusalem, and after paying his house rent and meeting the demands upon him for Miscellaneous expenses as indicated above and others for which the government makes no provision, has, from his fifteen hundred dollars salary, very little left to live upon. It seems in every way a reasonable and just demand that the salary of this Consulate be raised as I have indicated especially since, in addition to the reasons already given, the duties of the post are arduous and require the entire time and attention of the Consul.

I remain, Sir, respectfully,
Your obedient Servant,

Consul

One Enclosure

Statement showing the names and nationality of all persons officially connected with this office and the Jaffa Agency.-