of flour direct, from New York, to anticipate the want that is felt to be almost a certainty.

I have afforded such information as to prices and freights, as I have been able to obtain, from the New York papers.

The drouth pervades Syria, and Palestine; even more than Palestine.

I learn, that at Beirut, the rains have been heavy and continuous.

2d The Secretary, of the English Embassy at Constantinople Mr Malet, has been, here - the Pacha of Palestine, and the President of the Jerusalem Municipality, (Mayor) professes to be in favor of the proposed reforms, under English guardianship.

The latter, (the Mayor) was educated at Constantinople and speaks of Dr Hamlin, as "my great and honored teacher, Dr Hamlin".

Mr Sage, the English Vice Consul at Damascus writes me, that he is very busy, with the Pacha of Syria in initiating reforms.

The question here, among thoughtful people is, "wether reforms are possible under existing Turkish rule?"

3 The general health of the people of Jerusalem, is better than it was, during the summer.

The climate here, is not a bad one and with good Hygeine drainage and ventilation) the health of the people, at all seasons would be good.

The Free Dispensary of the London Jews Society, a large establishment, in charge of Dr Chaplin, is doing a good work here, for the poor Jews; and they are nearly all poor.

I have the honor to be
Sir
Your obedient Servant
(Signed) J. H. Wilson
Consul

No 48

U. S. Consulate at
Jerusalem February 15th 1877

Hon. Chas. Payson
Third Assistant Secretary of State
Washington D. C.

Sir

I am in receipt of despatch No 28 of 5th January, in reference to "hypothetical cases", of Citizenship claiming Consular protection.

It seems, that the Consular rules are susceptible of two interpretations; my predecessors, having adopted one, not warranted, as it seems to me, by the rules; but inasmuch as these persons, enrolled, suppose themselves to be Citizens, I have not deemed it advisable, to "drop their names", without the express sanction of the Department of State.

I have uniformly, declined to enroll persons, holding similar papers.

The Cattle Plague, has appeared in four towns in the Nablous District, and a strict quarantine has been established by the Authorities here.

Rumor has just reached us direct and authentic, that the Plague (the Russian Fever) has broken out in Thessaly Greece, and that all ships coming from Greek ports must undergo quarantine.

The Rubattino line of Steamers (the Italian line) is to be discontinued on this Coast.

The Mercantile Firm, ordering from Liverpool, samples and prices of American flour, inform me, that the charges at Liverpool for reshipment are too high, and that they can not invest, unless they can secure direct shipment from America. They talk of chartering a vessel for this purpose.

The rainfall thus far, this season is light, and the prospect for the harvest discouraging.

I have the honor to be
Sir
Your obedient Servant
(Signed) J. H. Wilson
Consul