1889. I have also received the copies of the United States Export Finance, referred to in Circular of November 19, last, and which have been distributed by me as required.

I am, Sir,
Your obedient Servant

Consul

No. 157

Consulate of the United States,
Jerusalem, March 1. 1890.

Honorable William F. Wharton,
Assistant Secretary of State,
Washington, D.C.

Sir:

I have the honor to transmit, herewith, for the use of the Agricultural Department, my "Report of the Agriculture and Horticulture of Palestine for the month of February, 1890."

I am, Sir,
Your obedient Servant,

Consul

Enclosures:
1. Report of the Agriculture and Horticulture of Palestine for the month of February, 1890.

Report on the Agriculture and Horticulture of Palestine for the month of February, 1890.

There were but few days during the month in

which rain did not fall, which proved a great interruption to the late plowing.

Maize (American corn), to a small amount, was planted.

This is the month in which the grafting of the grape vine is practised. The method has been successfully introduced into Palestine by some German settlers at Sarona, and has also been adopted by the Jewish colonists at Zion = Zion, both places being in the neighborhood of Jaffa. They graft on the native stocks shoots of American, French and Hungarian extraction, the first mentioned variety being the American Isabella grape, which here becomes a most superior fruit, an excellent wine being manufactured from it.

The ordinary garden vegetables are brought into market in fair abundance. The cauliflower is now in full perfection, and of fine quality.

Oranges are now fully ripe, and continue to be exported from Jaffa, the amount shipped from that port during February being about 45,000 cases. As anticipated, the price has advanced, the fruit now bringing from $12. to $13. per thousand.

The rain fall at Jaffa and on the plains during the month was 3 inches, and exceeded this in the hill-country. —

Henry Gillman,
Consul

United States Consulate,
Jerusalem, February 28. 1890