No. 72

Consulate of the United States,
Jerusalem, October 8. 1888.

Honorable George L. Rives
Assistant Secretary of State
Washington, D.C.

Sir:

With reference to the threatened expulsion of our Hebrew Citizens, as reported in my despatches No. 62 & 65, dated respectively August 31, and September 10, 1888, I have the honor to enclose herewith copy of extract from despatch No. 72, dated September 15 last, from our Consular Agent at Jaffa.

Since my last report on the subject, the three citizens referred to have not been molested, and nothing further has occurred here in this case, except that the carriage driver who brought those citizens to Jerusalem, and who was thrown into prison for so doing, was also the same day liberated.

I have communicated these facts to our Consulate General.

It is to be hoped that the prompt action of our Legation in connection with this incident shall have the effect of preventing a recurrence of such treatment of our citizens who are Hebrews.

I am, Sir,
Your Obedient Servant,

Consul.

Enclosure:
Mr. Hardegg to Mr. Gillman.
Extract from despatch No. 72, of September 15, 1888.

No. 73

Consulate of the United States,
Jerusalem, October 18. 1888.

Honorable George L. Rives,
Assistant Secretary of State,
Washington, D.C.

Sir:

I have the honor to report that their Imperial Highnesses the Grand Duke Sergius Alexandrovitch, the Grand Duchess Elizabeth Feodorovna, and the Grand Duke Paul Alexandrovitch arrived here on the 11th instant, and, after a visit of six days, left for Jaffa and Egypt on the 17th instant.

Their Imperial Highnesses during their visit received many demonstrations of respect, especially on the part of the various Consulates. As is the custom here, all the Consulates, including our own, sent their Dragomans and Cavasses, mounted on horseback, to meet and welcome Their Imperial Highnesses at Colonia, the village on the mountain slopes ascending to Jerusalem which marks the site of the Roman Military Colony planted by Titus, A.D. 70, to guard the approaches.

The object of Their Imperial Highnesses in visiting Jerusalem, apart from their desire to see the holy and historic places, was to be present at the dedication of the new Russian Church on the Mount of Olives, just above the Garden of Gethsemane, erected in memory of H.I.M. the late Empress of Russia, and dedicated to St. Mary Magdalene.

The pronounced interest of Russia in the Holy Land increases yearly and daily, of which there is abundant evidence in many directions.

I am, Sir
Your Obedient Servant

Consul.