No. 9.

United States Consulate
Jerusalem. Syria
August 4. 1891.

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

Sir:

Referring to my last Despatch, viz: No. 8. dated July 27. giving notice of the death of Mrs Anne Maury Hay. I beg to inclose herewith a copy of the inventory of her estate as prepared by Mr. Hardegg, U. S. Consular Agent at Jaffa, and to request that the same be forwarded to Mrs Moorehead whose address was given in said despatch

I remain. respectfully
S. M.
Consul.

Inclosure
Inventory Mrs Hay's Estate.

No. 10

United States Consulate
Jerusalem, Syrie
September 8, 1891.

Hon William F. Wharton
Assistant Secretary of State
Washington D. C.

Sir

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your despatch No. 5, dated August 6, 1891. confirming the nomination of Mr. Herbert E. Clark as Vice Consul for Palestine and Mr. E. Hardegg as Consular Agent for Jaffa; also despatch No. 6, same date

respecting the appropriation for interpreter and guards for this Consulate for the present fiscal year.

Allow me to call your attention to a very important matter connected with the welfare of this Consulate. Owing to peculiar circumstances which make the Jerusalem Consulate exceptional if not entirely unique in our Consular service it seems necessary to employ a second dragoman. This has for many years been the Custom at this Consulate, but for two years past more or less it has been discontinued. See Consul General Pringle's report to Hon. G. L. Rives, assistant Secretary of State, inclosed in the Department's despatch to this Consulate No 49, February 8, 1889, in which the Consul General advises the discontinuance of unpaid dragomans and "the Department entirely agrees with the Consul General in the belief that the practice should cease.

Some of the peculiar circumstances to which I refer are as follows:- A large proportion of the United States' subjects here are naturalized Jews from Russia or Poland. Many of these persons were never in the United States and cannot speak a word of English. To deal with these people there should be connected with Consulate a person who understands not only English, German and Hebrew, but especially "Jewish Jargon", the barbarous language spoken by most of this Class of our American subjects

The Consul is required to keep a register of American citizens and to send a transcript of the same to the Department of State at the close of each calender year. See Consular Regulations Paragraph 444. While by the same Article registration cannot be made compulsory, it is certainly implied that the Consul will use every reasonable means to make the register as complete as possible. During my former term as Consul here I had the list of citizens revised every year. It was always attended with special difficulties and sometimes required three or four weeks of labor before the list could be completed. My successor Mr. Gillman gave this matter no attention whatever, and it is simply impossible to tell who, or how many, our citizens are, and marriages deaths, births, removals, new arrivals, date and place of naturalization and other matters which should appear on such a list, are in a jumble. When any citizen applied for registration, however, Mr. Gillman recorded his name and always charged a fee for the same, clearly in violation of Consular Regulation Paragraph 444 which states that "no fee will be charged for registration nor for any service connected with it". I called Mr. Gillman's attention to this, and

since he left the practice has been discontinued.

For the sake of the good order and discipline of this Consulate the register of citizens must be put into proper shape. This I am already engaged in doing and I am employing to assist me Mr. David Feinstein who has formerly been in the service of this Consulate. If the Department is not willing to compensate Mr. Feinstein for his services then I must do it myself.

The present interpreter on account of the nature of the languages and the character of the people involved, is wholly unable to do this work. Moreover he is occupied with the ordinary duties of the office, and with matters in the Turkish Court where the interests of American citizens require his presence. Matters connected with the coming and going of many Jews, their marriages, births, deaths, and divorces, the quarrels which arise among them and which are almost always brought before the Consul, make the work connected with this class of our subjects a very important item in this Consulate. This work can be neglected or done in a bungling manner; it can also be done properly by employing a person who is competent to do it.

I respectfully ask, therefore, that I may be allowed to employ Mr. David Feinstein as second dragoman or interpreter in this Consulate and to compensate him with the amount of the extra appropriation made for this Consulate as reported in your despatch No 6 herewith acknowledged.

I remain, respectfully
Your obedient servant

U. S. Consul

No. 11.

United States Consulate,
Jerusalem, Syria,
September 14. 1891.

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

Sir:

Allow me to request that the following blank

forms be forwarded by post to this Consulate

No. 90.	Miscellaneous Expenses.	25
" 113.	Certificate	25
" 159.	Notarial Services	50
	Invoice Forms.	
No. 138		50
" 139		50
" 140		50
" 140 A.		50

I remain respectfully,
Your obedient Servant,

U. S. Consul

No. 12.

United States Consulate,
Jerusalem, September 16. 1891.

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

Sir,

So many Americans, who are purposing to visit Palestine, are writing to me in reference to the Cholera that I have thought it might be well, if the Department is so disposed, to make public a statement which no doubt will be a relief to many minds.

This season there has been no Cholera nearer to us than Aleppo on the north and Mecca and some of the Red Sea ports on the south. Both Egypt and Palestine have been perfectly free from it. During half a century cholera, whenever it has been an epidemic in Egypt, has never appeared there later than the 25th of July. It has generally appeared much earlier in the season. Moreover cholera does not visit Palestine from the south, but always from the north, coming by way of Bagdad and Damascus. It has visited where it existed in and about Aleppo. Only a