No. 110

Consulate of the United States,
Jerusalem, July 23. 1889.

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

Sir:

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your despatch No. 57, dated the 22d ultimo; also Circulars dated respectively the 22d and 25th ultimo, the former having reference to certain new ports of entry, the latter to letters of introduction.

I am, Sir,
Your Obedient Servant,

Consul.

No. 111

Consulate of the United States
Jerusalem, July 31. 1889.

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

Sir:

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of Circulars dated respectively April 27th and May 2d, 1889, the former having reference to orders given to seamen, the later to report on irrigation.

I am, Sir,
Your Obedient Servant,

Consul.

No. 112

Consulate of the United States,
Jerusalem, August 10. 1889.

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

Sir:

As it frequently happens that our citizens who are Hebrews marry under age, or when only sixteen or seventeen years old, I have the honor to request that I may be instructed as to whether the Department authorizes me to legalize such marriages. The wife in such cases is generally younger; and in most Oriental countries, marriages at even much younger ages than those mentioned are far from uncommon. In some instances the parties to the marriage have been born in this country, and their citizenship is based on their being the children of citizens of the United States.

Under Paragraph 385 of Consular Regulations is the statement:

"As a general rule, matrimonial capacity is determined by the law of the place of domicil of the party in question."

But can the term "place of domicil" be construed into meaning place of residence abroad? This seems doubtful.

In a case recently brought before me the young man was seventeen years of age, he was born and has always resided in Jerusalem, and both his parents are deceased, his father having been a naturalized citizen of the United States.

I am, Sir,
Your Obedient Servant,

Consul.