No. 140.

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

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

Sir:

I have the honor to forward herewith, for the use of the Agricultural Department, my Report on the Agriculture and Horticulture of Palestine for the month ending December 31. 1889.

I am, Sir,
Your Obedient Servant,
Henry Gillman.
Consul.

Enclosure:
1. Report of the Agriculture and Horticulture of Palestine for month ending December 31. 1889.

Report on the Agriculture and Horticulture of Palestine for the month ending December 31. 1889.

With the exception of the ploughing for the sowing of wheat and barley, which still continues, but little work has been done in the field during the past month. Lentiles and peas have also been planted.

So far, the rainfall has hardly been as abundant as is to be desired. During the last two days of the year there was a sudden and marked lowering of the temperature, a cold sirocco wind blowing from the eastward, so that water froze in Jerusalem and its neighborhood.

Oranges, lemons and limes are coming into market in fair abundance, though the orange

is not yet fully ripe. Besides the "Shamouti" the large, oval, and thick-skinned orange, and the "Beladi", an orange of round shape, more juicy, and of smaller size, the Tangerine orange has also made its appearance, in small supply. The Lemons are of two varieties, the sweet and the sour.

Turnips and radishes are now in great abundance; and cauliflower is beginning to be cut, that grown around Jerusalem being remarkably fine. The Tomato, Cabbage and other ordinary garden vegetables are still in good quantity.

In a country such as this is where the Government issues no publications, and where statistics are generally regarded as sinful, it would be next to impossible to answer the questions suggested by the letter of the Honorable the Secretary of the Department of Agriculture, under date of the 2d. ultimo; yet, as far as possible, I shall endeavor to comply with the desired line of inquiry.

Signed Henry Gillman.
Consul.

United States Consulate,
Jerusalem, December 31. 1889.

No. 141

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

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

Sir:

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of copy of the Message of the President of the United States, also Circulars dated respectively October 25th and November 21st last, and the box of Stationery and supplies referred to in your despatch No. 58