No. 212

Consulate of the United States
Jerusalem, Dec. 29. 1890.

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

Sir:

Referring to your despatch No. 78, of the 1st September last, granting me a leave of absence of sixty days, also to my No. 200, of 21st October last, I have the honor to furnish herewith the additional information required in connection with said leave:

1st Date of departure from post, Oct. 27. 1890.
2d " " arrival at post, on return, Dec. 26. 1890.
The entire time of absence being sixty days.

I am, Sir
Your obedient Servt,
Henry Gillmore,
Consul

No. 213

Consulate of the United States
Jerusalem, Dec. 29. 1890.

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

Sir:

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt

of your despatch No. 79 of the 24th ultimo, also copy of "The Message of the President of the U. S." and package of advance sheets Consular reports.

I am, Sir,
Your obedient Servant,
Consul

No. 214

Consulate of the United States,
Jerusalem, January 1. 1891.

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 on the agriculture and Horticulture of Palestine for the month of December, 1890.

I am, Sir,
Your obedient Servant,
Consul.

Enclosure:
Report on the agriculture & Horticulture of Palestine for the month of December 1890.

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

Owing to the timely and abundant rains the plowing and sowing, which in most years extend into a much later period, have been already nearly completed on the plains and the lands along the coast, and will soon be brought to a close in the hill country.

The quantity of rain which has fallen this month is remarkable: we had sixteen days of wet weather, and the total rainfall amounted to 11½ inches; which with the fall of the previous month, reaches the grand total of 18 inches during the 81 days. This has been unfavorable for very low land, which has been turned, in many places, into pools of standing water. Most of the orange groves at Jaffa have also been submerged; but as this is probably only temporarily, it is not likely to be of serious damage.

Notwithstanding the excessive rains, the condition of the grain crops gives favorable promise.

Cabbage has begun to be harvested, and will give a good yield this winter; but Cauliflower is a short crop.

The shipment of oranges amounted to 7000 cases per week. Prices varied from $10. to $12½. per Jaffa thousand (1500).

The temperature for December was, on the plains, as follows:

Maximum,	daytime,	86°	Fahr.
"	night,	62°	"
Minimum,	daytime,	58°	"
"	night,	54°	"

It was about 10° colder than this in

the hill country.

(S.) Henry Gellmann
Consul.

United States Consulate,
Jerusalem, December 31. 1890.

No. 215

Consulate of the United States,
Jerusalem, January 1. 1891

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

Sir:

I send you inclosed the accounts and returns of this office for the quarter ending December 31. 1890, as per subjoined list of Inclosures:

I am, Sir,
Your Obedient Servt.

Consul

Enclosures:
1. Digest of Invoice book
2. Record of notarial services
3. Rent & miscellaneous expense account.
4. Account Interpreter & guards.
5. List of U.S. Citizens Jerusalem
6. " " " " & employes, Jaffa.
7. Names of employes U.S. Consulate Jerusalem.
8. Register official letters sent & received.
9.
10. Account Losses by exchange.
11. List of letters sent Department.