It is not absolutely necessary that partial payments be recorded, though it is considered better to have them of record; and the debtor who defaults in part is credited with such payments as he can prove he has made. These are generally indorsed on the papers, and are held by the court as sufficient evidence of the payments.

10.– What is the ordinary form for canceling?

The form for canceling is that a receipt in full is written upon the mortgage, which is declared canceled; and also the discharge is entered on the register of the court; the title deeds being returned to the mortgagor or owner of the property.

There are here many quaint forms connected with the giving and discharging of mortgages, which have become or are becoming obsolete. For instance it was thought necessary to the validity of the mortgage that the mortgagee should place his hand upon, or take hold of the property in question. I have had this seriously introduced in a case brought before me of canceling a mortgage on a house, the form not having been complied with, and the validity of the mortgage being, in consequence, called in question.

11.– Is it possible to arrive at a probable proportion of existing recorded and unrecorded indebtedness? If so how?

It would be difficult if not impossible to arrive at this proportion with any approximate degree of accuracy. It could only be by lengthy and laborious investigation, most arduous in a country like this, that the required quantities could be reached with anything approaching correctness. General opinion, however, would place the unrecorded in excess of the recorded indebtedness to the amount of two thirds of the latter.—

I am, Sir,
Your Obedient Servant,

Consul.

No. 105

Consulate of the United States,
Jerusalem, June 19, 1889.

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

Sir:

I have the honor to report that His Blessedness Vincenzo Bracco, the Patriarch of the Latin (Catholic) Church in Jerusalem died this morning at 3½ o'clock, after an illness of several days, during the last three of which he lay unconscious.

The flags of all the Consulates in this city are, to-day, at half mast, out of respect to the deceased Patriarch, who, by birth an Italian, was distinguished for his high character and eminent worth united with a modest and retiring disposition, and whose death is unanimously lamented.

I am, Sir,
Your Obedient Servant,

Consul.

No. 104

Consulate of the United States,
Jerusalem, June 19, 1889.

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

Sir:

Referring to Department dispatch No. 45, dated December 14, 1888, inclosing copy of letter of the Honorable Postmaster General, dated December 11, 1888, also to my No. 75 and 88, dated respectively October 24, 1888, and January 9, 1889, I have the honor to state that the registered parcel therein referred to has not been received at this Consulate. And I respectfully request that, for the satisfaction