No. 162

Consulate of the United States,
Jerusalem, April 21. 1890.

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

Sir:

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your dispatches No. 70 & 71, dated respectively the 10th & 20th ultimo; also circulars of the 15th 26th & 28th February last.

I am, Sir,
Your obedient Servant

Consul.

No. 163

Consulate of the United States,
Jerusalem, April 21. 1890

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

Sir:

Referring to circular dated February 15th 1890, I have the honor to state that gas is not used or manufactured in any part of this Consular district.

I am, Sir
Your obedient Serv't

Consul

No. 164.

Consulate of the United States,
Jerusalem, April 30. 1890.

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 April 1890."

I am, Sir,
Your obedient Servant.

Consul

Enclosures:
1. "Report on the Agriculture and Horticulture of Palestine for the month of April, 1890."

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

The "latter rain" being the month of April has fallen in sufficient abundance, not only to insure the safety of the grain crops, but to give promise of a most favorable harvest. On the plains the rainfall amounted to fully one inch, which is almost phenomenal for the time of year. In fact, in most parts of Palestine, the indications point to good crops of all kinds.

On the hillsides and in the valleys around Jerusalem the Barley has been in ear since the middle of the month, and on the low-lying lands it is still further advanced. On the plain of Sharon the harvesting of Barley began on the 24th instant.

The export of oranges closed on the 15th instant, which is earlier than usual, being caused by the great

scarcity of the fruit. Up to the date mentioned the monthly export amounted to 12,000 cases, which sold at $12. per thousand. Towards the close of April the orange deteriorates, becoming dry and insipid.

Though roses may be had all the year round in Jerusalem, April and May are considered as the "season of roses". In the Valley of Roses, about three miles from Jerusalem, the rose is cultivated in great abundance, the flowers finding a ready market in the city. When sold in the larger quantities for making rose-water the flowers bring from $1.50 to $2. per rotthl (6 lbs). The crop this season is a remarkably luxuriant and perfect one, the valley at this writing being a beautiful sight. Rose-water is commonly made in the old families in Jerusalem, where it is lavishly used at weddings and all festivals, the sprinkled guests often being literally drenched with it. This inferior article is made simply by boiling the rose-leaves and then straining off the water.

(Signed) Amos Gollman
Consul

United States Consulate,
Jerusalem, April 30. 1890.

No. 165

Consulate of the United States,
Jerusalem, May 10. 1890.

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

Sir:

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt

of your despatches No. 72 and 73, of respectively the 5th and 8th ultimo, Circulars dated March 1, 28, 29 and 31, 1890, and Circ. 8th last, and Consular Reports No. 110 to 113, inclusive, together with index to Consular Reports No. 108 to 111.

I am, Sir
Your obedient Servant,

Consul

No. 166

Consulate of the United States,
Jerusalem, May 12. 1890

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

Sir:

Referring to Circular of March 1st last, I have the honor to state that I have had no such marine reports as those mentioned to forward to the Department for transmittal to the Hydrographic Office.

The copies of the blank forms for masters of vessels (Form 105, Inclosure A.) and the "bottle papers" (Inclosure B.) shall be distributed among our Consular Agents at Jaffa, and all the other instructions carried out, as far as possible.

The Ottoman authorities have taken no interest in such matters, and do nothing in this direction.

As our field of observation would be more especially the Mediterranean sea, and perhaps the Red Sea, any publications relating thereto would be of the greatest interest in this connection; and full attention shall be given to the work, consistent with the proper observance of the other duties devolving upon me.