



PUBLIC LETTER-WRITERS.

structed of reeds, and just big enough to hold the articles for sale, while the peasant vendors must stand, or sit down on the ground. Sometimes the extreme heat is almost unendurable.

Walking around the bazaar, one can see, here and there, a man standing beside a camel which carries a load of charcoal, awaiting a customer; next to him, possibly, is one with a camel or donkey-load of straw, and it may be a third one, with a load of wood. Over yonder is a large heap of wheat, barley, lentils, or other grain for sale.

Frugal to the last degree, the peasant women of Palestine are careful to save such marketable stuff as chickens, eggs, chaff, tare and other things, that they may bring them for sale to Jaffa market. Sometimes a woman takes the

trouble to walk three or four hours' distance to market with half a dozen eggs—only two cents' worth; sometimes with a chicken worth six or eight cents, a bundle of wood for three or four cents, or a small quantity of tare or chaff, that is worth only two cents. Although the transaction may seem to be insignificant, the peasant housekeeper can help herself considerably by such sales. The few cheap staples the peasants require from the cities or towns are, first, calico, of which three or four yards are quite sufficient to clothe a man or woman; next, salt, two cents' worth of which will be sufficient for a week; then thread, olive-oil soap, and a few other little articles, which may be obtained after selling their own goods, as mentioned above. American or Russian coal