Appendix A3

*John M. Pinkston to General John Garland, Tucson, September 20, 1855. Adjutant General’s Office Letters Received, National Archives Record Group 94, Entry 12, file # P-400-1855.*

*<composition and strike-throughs in this text represent composition and strike-throughs in the manuscript document.>*

Tucson September 20th 1855.

General—Garland . commander of the 9th Military department,

Dr sir

The peculiar circumstances under which we are place[d], will excuse the liberty I take as a stranger ~~persolla~~ personally in writing to you. The Mexicans of this place have sent you a petition in their own form the substance is soliciting you to send them some protection against the Apaches.

Tis true we do not know to what quarter we should look for protection.,do not know under whose Military Jurisdiction we fall , but suppose we are under yours, if so you would us a particular favour to send us some soldiers for the line of demarkation is now complete and ~~the the~~ the mexican soldiers will be moved from this place in a few days.Afle after which we will be left in a defencless situation.

The number of souls in Tucson you can form some idea from the number of petitioners, there is five or six thousand bushels of wheat in this place . and I suppose there will be a similar quantity of corn when matured . there is at least a thousand head of cattle . a number of horses — mules — sheep and other stock , all of which needs to be protected.

There is another important consideration, that is the mines . There is gold silber & copper in this country , but the Indians are so bad that the people cannot work . now if therd there was a few companies of troops here, . it would encourage emigration and in a short time our mines would be worked to advantage ,these ideas however ,are in a degree apart [from] the object of this communication . which is to solicit imediate help before the Apaches uses us up.

I am able to assure you that corn — flour — beef — cattle and sugar can be had to supply troops . afle other articles can be had from the Colerado .three hundred miles distant .

I feel confident that our government will do something for the new purchased teritory .there being good land — water — timber & minerals on the rio Gila — .(san Pedro—Aribappe . san Carlos and other tributary waters of the Gila . it is my oppinion that this country is far a head of California in this respect . but those Indians . Indians. Indians .

Sir if you find it necessary to correspond with and [any] person in this part . I would be happy to serve you . as also Mr. W. S. Bonner one of the partners (sutlers) at fort Yuma — who has a few goods in this place .

Respectfully your obt servt

John M. Pinkston