Washington City D.C.
March 10th 1857.

Sir

On the 31st of March last I received at my residence in Dayton, Oregon your letter enclosing a copy of the report of the Third Auditor of the Treasury upon my claim "growing out of expenses incurred by the U.S. Regiment of Mounted Riflemen in Oregon in 1849 & 50."

My official duties in the Indian department at the time of its reception, and for several months subsequent precluded the possibility of devoting time to hunt up testimony. In fact the chief actors connected with that business who would be likely to know any of the facts and whose testimony would throw light upon the subject were transient persons - and have gone to parts unknown. There are three in that category who know the fact that I was acting as agent for Lieut Dawkins - and that I accompanied him on his expedition to Fort Hall. but they know nothing as to the consideration which was to have been paid for that service.

There was no written agreement betwn Lieut Dawkins and myself. The ten horses furnished him were delivered after he had started on the expedition. The 2 times paid out for which vouchers were ~~taken~~ not taken were expenses necessarily

insured by his genl verbal direction anticipating that the amount would be refunded me by Lut Hawkins - and he was to account for the same in his returns - The items for which vouchers were taken in his name - were bought and paid for by his verbal direction and receipts taken as in form which he himself furnished me - the amount of which he was to refund me at our settlement - It is but just to me to say that he was much ~~at the time~~ interrupted during the time of making the out fit and very frequently so after we started on the trip - The first items furnished by me were paid for by his bankers Campbell & Smith who took bonds from the parties - but being greatly annoyed by not binding Lut Hawkins to obtain credit for the amounts for extra labor, I was about declining to serve longer, when he gave me a check on his bankers for a sum not now recollected and directed that the receipt should be taken in Capt Ingles name - one passage of these receipts were handed to Lut Hawkins - and herewith one found others - my impressions have been that I

had other receipts of the same character - but can now unable to find them, it is possible they were handed him. at all events the receipts more than covered the amount of money handed me by his brother on his order. And my impression now one they the amount exceeded five thousand dollars. But those purchases forms no part of the claim for which I set up a claim. The services rendered, the articles furnished by myself - and the advances, were all predicated upon the understanding that we were to settle on his return to Oregon City. When he did return, I had an interview with him but made no settlement as he stated he could not then do it at that time his sickness which soon followed disappointing him from perfecting it. And when the partial payment was made he was so impaired as to even render it difficult making his mark to the receipt.

The amount advanced was not regarded as specifically applicable to any one class of accounts but was laid on an unsettled account.

I have no knowledge of the muster roll beyond the statement of the quartermaster made to the employees after they returned from Fort Hall. That they could not say

for reason that Lt Perkins name was not signed to the one sent down from Fort Yamhill when Perkins remained during the winter. This explanation was also given by the Lt after he came to Oregon City. I may add that the amount $350.00 per month was really $50.00 less than I was offered to remain at Oregon City. And that the balance as charged in the account is justly due me but I do not know that it is possible to obtain testimony upon the subject at this late date. ~~All of which is respectfully submitted~~ For the information of the department and benefit of Lt Perkins I have to say, that it is understood - Perkins Bankers - Campell & Smith) the latter under a fictious name original being Alcott) have in their possession vouchers belonging to Lt Perkins amounting to over Eight thousand dollars

All of which is respectfully submitted

Very respectfully
Your obt Svt

Joel Palmer

Prof. J Atkinson Esq
Auditor
Washington D.C.

Letter in support Doppelmaier
of claim against the Geed
on account of Banks's
claim