Department of the Interior,
General Land Office,
Washington, D.C., November 14, 1898.

Lapsed proof returned for action thereon by R. & R.

Register and Receiver,
Tucson, Arizona.

Gentlemen:

Conception Gonzales made homestead entry No. 1140, October 20, 1888, for the Section 24, T.12 S., R.18 E., Gila and Salt River Mer.

October 28, 1898, the register transmitted the lapsed final proof, which was submitted before your office on June 16, 1898, for the consideration of this office.

The claimant furnished an affidavit which shows that he did not submit his proof in time, because of ignorance of the law. No explanation by your office is offered respecting the long delay in acting on the case.

The papers are herewith returned for the action of your office as instructed by letter "C" Sept. 26, 1898, in the case of Juan Cruz.

Very respectfully,

[Signature]

Exhibit 23.1