

Salem, Mass. May 10, '55

(On a visit here)

Dear Miss Williams,

Your letter gave me a nice surprise, after a prolonged silence. I often think of you, especially at the time when J. B. Harkin passed away. This brings back to my memory the times when I was associated with the Nat. Parks for the collecting of F.C. objects, and when you aided me in the pursuit of good writing. I remember the evening when, at the Authors' Assoc., a story of yours was read; it was full of tender affection --- was it ever published? This was one of the best stories I have ever heard. It paved the way for our later collaboration in "Esalce" as you fitly call her --- rather than Mountain Cloud --- as the tale later became. It has now long been out of print, although not a great popular success. The Carter Press, its publisher, later published Alaska Beckons (non-fiction), and will bring out, in a few months, Pathfinder in the Pacific.

The fine silver bracelet, made by Edusaw of the Haida, was a mark of my gratitude to you. Now you write that you are returning it to you, for safe keeping as it were. I am a bit surprised, for you must be personally attached to it, and it has been with you for many years. It makes us realize the passing of the years ... I accept it in the spirit that inspires you. It will go, I am sure, to one of my daughters, Hélène (the 2<sup>nd</sup> daughter), married to Marcel Rivest, chief ethnologist, at the Nat. Museum. I still keep my office hours, and am more than ever productive. At present, I have seven books at the publisher or being completed. Hélène has three children and will have a fourth at the end of this month. We will go back to Ottawa for the event. Daktla, the elder daughter, married to the artist and craftsman Arthur Gize, has four children. So I have many grand-children, who often come to our large home at Neuchâtel St.

Other news: We will be going to Europe on June 11, for three months, first to Oslo, where I'll represent the Nat. Museum at the International Folk Music Council. We will stay three months in France and Spain. In Oct. we will drive

to Louisiana, when I have been invited to represent  
 Canada at the Bicultural of the Acadia Deportation. Now  
 I am completing a month's survey of eastern museums.  
 Strytinski here to lunch and we will pursue its progress  
 into Canada next week proceeding through Western N.Y.,  
 Toronto, and coming back home on the 21<sup>st</sup>.

I hear from my office that a parcel has  
 arrived with your letter letter. I presume it is the  
 bracelet. I will acknowledge it, after I return.

Affectionately your friend

Marion Barbeau

My cordial regards  
 to Mrs. Herdick

**Marius Barbeau to MB Williams, May 1955**

**Transcription / Additional Information**

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Marius Barbeau