

May 6,
1953.

Dear Mr. Alexander,

You must think me a very negligent person, I know. The truth of the matter is that since Christmas I have had to move again and that is such a major undertaking that I am not only rushed to keep up with work, but get so very far behind at my desk. I really need at least a part time secretary, but never seem to accomplish that.

However, I did have your last letter right on top on my desk to be answered in the next day or two. I am getting up extra early these days and trying to put in an hour at my desk before getting in to the dark room.

The little picture of your mother, such a lovely portrait and I remember your showing the original, should make a lovely little card. I think I can copy it satisfactorily. Would you mind if I coated the surface of this particular print to bring out all possible detail? All it would mean would be to make it a more glossy surface which will copy better. Copying it and making 50 prints such as you indicate would be \$12.50. I shall do my best to make this for you at once if you wish me to.

The Navaho book is progressing but you are quite right it is a great undertaking and a very costly one and the deeper I get into it the more there is to do. But I trust that it will be completed and the publishers hands by next spring for fall publication of 1954.

It keeps me very much on the jump at all spare moments and with other work this is the reason I am so slow on some special types of work. I hope you will forgive me.

Last years Christmas cards and postcards came to \$20.

We are now living just across the street from your old house. Wish you were in it. This location is vastly better than the San Acacio house. We loved that little place but it just did not prove a practical location and it was with great reluctance that we reached the decision to leave it. You just dont know what it means to move and set up a new darkroom and I hope we are here for a long time to come.

This brings my very best wishes to you and the hope that you are well,

Very sincerely yours,