

1981

D. W. Krummel
702 West Delaware Avenue
Urbana, Illinois 61801

Gabriel Magyar, Esq.
708 Dover Place
Champaign, Illinois 61801

Dear Mr. Magyar:

I have examined your copy of the Stabat mater by Antonin Dvorak; and in my opinion, the item has a fair market value in the area of \$300.00.

The book is clearly a first edition, dating from 1880, as attested by the plate number and other bibliographical points as identified in Otokar Sourek's catalogue. (For confirmation of the plate number, 8234, it is necessary to use such other sources as Otto Erich Deutsch's Musikverlagsnummern.) The condition of the copy is good; it shows some signs of use, which is nice, and the binding is sound, contemporary, and quite well preserved in its own right. What makes the copy particularly valuable, however, is the autograph inscription of Dvorak himself. It is unfortunately not possible to date the writing exactly, because the right margin is cropped. The date of "May 13, 188" could run anywhere from 1881 to 1889; someday it may be possible to establish the years in which he was in Prague on those days. The affectionate terms ("Mit herzlichen Grüssen"---"with warm greetings") with which he addresses the recipient, J. M. Mandl (Mandel, Merei) suggests a close personal association.

My authority for proposing this valuation is reflected in over 25 years of work with musical documents, as described in Who's Who in America and other bibliographical, musicological, and library sources. Please let me know if I can be of further assistance.

Sincerely yours,

D. W. Krummel