

CONSULATE
of the
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

Trieste, July 7. 1872

My Dear Dwight.

Last spring I received
a letter from an old acquaintance
in Berlin in relation to a portrait
of Händel, which he believed to be
by Sir Godfrey Kneller. I wrote him
that I desired some proofs of this
fact, and ~~some account~~ of the
goodness of the portrait.

I have at length received his
reply, in which he states, that
Prof. Magnus, Hermann Grimm
& Joachim (who knows all the
English portraits) all agree that
it is "ein portrait ersten Ranges,
von sprechender Ähnlichkeit, und von
einem bedeutenden Künstler in das
von mir angenommene Zeit gemacht,
wenn auch nicht definitiv festgestellt

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ist von Kruller.

^{supplied by letter}
Thayer, A.W. (1817-1897; American
journalist, biographer of Beethoven).

Now comes the question: Are
you musical people, willing
to risk a subscription of \$500. to
secure this, or no better proof
of the value of the picture than
this? I will subscribe \$10.

towards it, for the ~~Musical~~ H. M.
Association, or for any public
institution. I have so much
faith in my correspondent as
to do this.

Whether the picture will still
be had by the time I can
receive a reply, is a question but
such articles do not find ready
sale at high prices in this part
of the world.

My third volume advances slowly,
owing to much "hard head."

Yours truly

Author of

Life of Beethoven

A.W. Thayer.