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June 16, 1969

Bishop Torkom Manoogian,  
Diocese of the Armenian Church of America,  
630 Second Avenue,  
New York City, N.Y. 10016

Dear Rev. Manoogian;

I am sending to you the two Armenian manuscripts which I have owned for twenty years, and about which you have written to me before. The small gospel is of 13th century, and the larger book is possibly somewhat later period. However, the notation written about three pages before the end giving the date of acquisition of the book figures to 1141 2, according to my interpretation. There are five letters instead of four. I was wondering if you could interpret the date properly.

I am sure Mr. Kazarian has spoken to you about these manuscripts already, since he has told me about your desire to see and examine them. Although I would like to present them, so that they would be properly placed, and kept for our nation, I am still wondering if they are of more value to me than others. I am a collector, and love and appreciate these books because I am an Armenian, as well as my realization that I or anybody else will possibly never have another opportunity to acquire such old Armenian manuscripts. I feel that unemotional, commercial appraisers will not find them so desirable as I do. In which case, I would appreciate their return to me. I hope you will not find this statement offensive. I can assure you that I am sincere in my expression of such an opinion without any malice of thought.

Very respectfully yours,

