

Vaižgantas, Raštai, t. 25: Laiškai įvairiems adresatams ir institucijoms, sudarė ir parengė Jurgita Žana Raškevičiūtė, Vilnius: Lietuvių literatūros ir tautosakos institutas, 2022

SUMMARY

Volume 25 of Vaižgantas's *Raštai* (Works), which bears the title *Laiškai įvairiems adresatams ir įstaigoms* (Letters to Various Addressees and Institutions), contains all the currently known and available epistolary writings of Juozas Tumas-Vaižgantas (1869–1933), a pillar of Lithuanian literature, written to individuals (priests, writers, social activists, artists, etc.) and to institutions, with the exception of the collection of letters to the families of his nieces, Bronė Mėginaitė-Klimienė and Barbora Mėginaitė-Lesauskienė. The epistolary corpus includes letters, postcards, cards, short notes and messages sent through couriers or left at home, visiting cards, invitations, texts addressed to the recipients on remittance receipts, and a telegram.

Tumas's correspondence is divided into two parts: letters to individuals and letters to institutions. The letters in the volume are arranged alphabetically by addressee in order to convey the semantic coherence of the letters written to the same person or group of persons (the family, for example) and to reveal the epistolary dialogue to the greatest extent possible. Although the volume does not offer the dialogues/polylogues of the letters, the extended commentaries provide detailed descriptions of the most important episodes in the letters of the surviving addressees that are related to the content of Vaižgantas's letter, descriptions of the responses, which create a picture of a vast network of communication, and bring the data scattered in the different archival files together in one single place. The volume contains a 'Chronological Index of Letters', which allows reading Vaižgantas's epistolary legacy in chronological order and combining both reading strategies.

All the texts of Vaižgantas's letters come from autographs; earlier publications of the letters are indicated in the description of each letter. The main text of the letter is given as the last layer of the inscription, while all authorial corrections and other features of the autograph (defective and reconstructed places etc.) are provided in the textual apparatus. Volume 25 of Vaižgantas's *Raštai* contains the critical text of the letters; taking the view that the correspondence covering the period from 1892 to 1933 represents the history of the formation of written Lithuanian, the diversification of

writing, lack of norms and rules and the search for them, that it reveals Vaižgantas's individual relationship with his own written language, and that it allows the reader to grasp the development of this language, it was decided not to edit them.

Each letter is presented in a specific order designed to create as reliable a view of each autograph as possible. Each letter is given a number and a heading, which includes the recipient's full name, the place and the date of writing. This is followed by the critical text of the letter and a description of the letter, which contains information on the place of storage of the letter, its physical data, the condition and other properties of the autograph, publications (if any) and bibliographical data of the sources, the bibliographical data and content of the response (if found), and the issues of dating, localising, addressee assignment, and authorship that were discussed in the course of the preparation of the particular letter. Each letter is accompanied by a textual apparatus as well as historical and subject commentaries. At the end of the volume, there is an annotated index encompassing personal names, place names, names of publications, institutions, organisations, and movements.

Santrauką į anglų kalbą vertė Diana Barnard