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Where are the limits of religious text transformation? The case of Nikolaus Ludwig von Zinzendorf's hymn

Nikolaus Ludwig von Zinzendorf's hymn entitled "Ich wills wagen :; von der schönen Pracht" was included in the hymnal *Kern Alter und Neuer Geistreicher Lieder* (1752, Königsberg), compiled by theologian, Königsberg Pietist, and supporter of August Hermann Francke, Franz Albert Schultz (1692–1763). The hymn from this hymnal was translated into Lithuanian and published in an unofficial, but very popular hymnal for neo-pietists (in Lithuanian *surinkimininkai*) entitled *Visokios naujos giesmės arba evangeliški psalmi* (All New Songs or Gospel Psalms) (1825, Tilsit). The Lithuanian translation of the Zinzendorf's hymn eventually became a popular and well-known work not only among the Prussian Lithuanian neo-pietists, but also among Evangelical Lutherans. By decision of the Klaipėda/Memel Evangelical Lutheran Consistory, it was included in the official Lithuanian Evangelical Lutheran hymnal for the first time in 1930. However, Zinzendorf's hymn had many transformations, with changes to both its original text and its Lithuanian translation. The purpose of this paper is to reveal the history of Zinzendorf's hymn „Ich wills wagen :; von der schönen pracht“, to show in what form it was published in the main 18th-century Herrnhuter hymnbook *Christliches Gesang-Buch der Evangelischen Brüder-Gemeinen von 1735*, and what transformations it underwent in the German hymnbook of Königsberg. The paper also aims to show how the Lithuanian translation was highly redacted in the hymnals of the 19th and 20th centuries.

Brief biographical note:

Dissertation in philology, in the field of humanities *XIX amžiaus pirmosios pusės surinkimininkų giesmyų istorija (genezė ir kalba)* [The History of the Hymn Books from the First Half of the 19th Century Neo-Pietists Movement (Genesis and Language)] has been successfully defended on 2014 (diploma No. VV 001468; Vilnius: Vilnius University, Lithuania).

Published 18 articles in peer-reviewed publications. Prepared and compiled a collection of articles: *Moderniųjų iniciatyvų ir tradicijos dialogas: surinkimininkų judėjimas Prūsijos Lietuvoje* [The Dialogue of Modern Initiatives and Tradition: Neo-Pietists Movement in Prussian Lithuania], edited by I. Strungytė-Liugienė, Vilnius: Lietuvių kalbos institutas, 2019, 272. ISBN 978-609-411-258-4

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Fields of research: the hymnody of neo-pietists (*surinkimininkai*) in Lithuanian, the written heritage of the neo-pietists and Moravian movement in Lithuanian, the cultural and confessional context of the Prussian Lithuania in the 18th–19th century, history of Pietism and Neo-Pietism