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of  $GL(2)$ , but seen from a rather different angle; here, too, Dirichlet series and generalizations of the old laws of reciprocity play a prominent role. This is not the time to give details, but I may refer you, for example, to the work of Shimura to indicate what I mean.

With this I hope to have convinced you that there is a complete continuity in the main lines of development in number-theory, at least from the days of Euler down to the present day. I could not hope to do more; if I have convinced you of this, I have more than accomplished my purpose.

### EPILOGUE

(July 1973)

Reference has been made above to my conjectures of 1948, which included the extension of the “Riemann hypothesis” to algebraic varieties of arbitrary dimension over finite fields.

Those conjectures have now been proved by Deligne. In the meanwhile, he had also shown, in conjunction with the work of Ihara, that their truth would imply the truth of Ramanujan’s conjecture on the  $\tau$ -function, which has been described above as “very much of an open problem”.

Number-theory is not standing still.

*(Reçu le 11 juin 1973)*

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