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## Preface

This is the third of five volumes that the authors plan to write in their examination of all the claims made by S. Ramanujan in *The Lost Notebook and Other Unpublished Papers*, which was published by Narosa in 1988. This publication contains the “Lost Notebook,” which was discovered by the first author in the spring of 1976 at the library of Trinity College, Cambridge. Also included therein are other partial manuscripts, fragments, and letters that Ramanujan wrote to G.H. Hardy from nursing homes during 1917–1919. Our third volume contains ten chapters and focuses on some of the most important and influential material in *The Lost Notebook and Other Unpublished Papers*. At center stage is the partition function  $p(n)$ . In particular, three chapters are devoted to ranks and cranks of partitions. Ramanujan’s handwritten manuscript on the partition and tau functions is also examined.