

## ELDAR TAVBERIDZE

### GIORGI TSERETELI ABOUT *LASHA GIORGI*

Giorgi Tsereteli's article "King Giorgi *Lasha*" was published in 1893. In the article the author clearly shows the strengths and weaknesses of the country left to Giorgi *Lasha*, and its political, economic and cultural situation; the author offers his conclusion that *Lasha* Giorgi who had been spoiled by his mother and who had no character would not be able to assume responsibility for ruling the country.

In order to provide proof of the aforementioned idea, G. Tsereteli quotes the excerpt from *Karilis Tskhovreba* (Georgian Chronicles, i.e. Life of Kartli) where the King is characterized as an obstinate man. The fact that his easy-going character led him to his *flirting behaviour and excessive drinking did not escape the notice of the author*. The King did not have time for his responsibilities.

G. Tsereteli's publication completely shares the position of the Chronicler concerning Giorgi *Lasha as a ruler; the king was a habitual drunkard who avoided marriage and maintained his relationship with a woman from Velistsikhe* (the King had an illegitimate son by a non-noble woman). Later Parsadan Gorgijanidze attempted to somehow rehabilitate Giorgi *Lasha's* name and to provide positive understanding of his kingship. The same attempt was made by David Bagrationi.