

## AN OUTSTANDING EXAMPLE OF GERMAN EXPRESSIONS ON A STEIN

Pictured to the right is  
Mettlach Number 171 - This  
fine example of the stein  
maker's art is the three  
liter version of the  
popular Wedgewood Cameo  
Type of a "master stein."  
The figures circling it  
represent the months of the  
year, as do the related  
verses. The verses and their  
translations by Arthur J.  
Maethner appear below.



**Januar - Eismond - Hartung  
Jaenner (Jenner)**

Unser jenner ist kalt  
Hat sonnenschein -  
Drum fuellen wir  
Faesser und schlaeuche mit wein.

**January - Month of Ice and Hardship**

The weather's cold -  
Though sun may shine -  
So we fill kegs and jugs with wine.  
And tarry long o'er grape and berry.  
One must be wary in January!

**Februar - Hornung - Feber - Sporkel**

Hornung ist fasznachtzeit,  
Der den Narren macht ist gescheut.

**February - Month of the Horn**  
The shrovetide farce in February  
Is not a season to be wary.  
Join the fun and play the fool.  
Now is the time to loose your cool.

**Maerz - Lenzing - Lenzmond**  
Er ist nicht zu trocken -  
Nicht zu nasz -  
Er fuellt uns leuten  
Kist und fass.

**March - Month of Spring and Rejuvenation**  
March makes our labors pleasant tasks  
And fills our chests, as well as casks.  
It's not too dry, and not too wet.  
A month we simply can't forget.

**April - Ostermond**  
Sind end aprill die reben noch blind,  
So freut sich der herr un's hausgesind.

**April - Month of Easter**  
Should April's ebb young vine slips spy  
The vintner's house will sigh, "Oh my!"

**Mai - Wonnemond**  
Alles liebt im mai  
Jeder, vogel leegt sein ey,  
Es ist pfingstregen,  
Darum weinseegen.

**May - Month of Joy**  
The month of May is a month of love.  
Hawks lay their eggs, as does the dove  
And the gentle rains at Whitsuntide  
Bless sparkling wines on every side.

**Juni - Brachmond**  
Juni bringt keinen frost mehr  
Der dem wein gefaehrlich waer.

**June - Month of Fallow Land**  
Though frost may touch the vines of June,  
Its harm is slight - a blessed boon.

**Juli - Heumond**

Jetzt geht mit dem rechen  
Wenn flieg enn bremsen stechen  
Am abend magst zechen,  
Dich ruhig schlafen legen.

**July - Month of Hay**

March to the fields and rake that hay  
Flies may "bug" you all the day,  
Yet think of all the joys ahead,  
A "stein" or two, and then to bed!

**August - Erntemond**

Im heuen recht gegabelt,  
In der erndt recht gezabelt,  
Beim essen und trinken recht geschnabelt.

**August - Month of the Harvest**

After one has pitched the hay,  
And laid the harvest well away,  
The time arrives to drink and play.

**September - Herbstmond**

Maria Geburt  
gingen die Studenten und  
Schwalben furt.

**September - Month of Autumn**

In this birth month of our blessed Mary,  
Students and swallows do not tarry.

**Oktober - Weinmond - Gilbhart**

Wein und obst -  
Was gott beschert  
Ist nutzbringend und dankeswerth.

**October - Month of Wine and Changing Color**

God bestowed -  
To ease our load -  
Fruit and wine -  
A gift divine.

**November - Windmond - Nebelung**

Viel hasen - viel spring -  
Viel jage - viel sing.

**November - Month of Wind and Fog**

**The rabbits root, before they spring.**

**The hunters shoot, before they sing.**

**Dezember - Christmond - Heilmond - Julmond**

**Schwein schlachten, wein trinken,**

**Haering essen, wachtel fangen**

**Kraut schneiden -**

**Sind des monats freuden.**

**December - Month of Christ - The Savior - Yule**

**Slay the swine, sip the wine,**

**Dine on herring in the brine.**

**Quail and herbs are also fine,**

**Broiled on embers in December.**