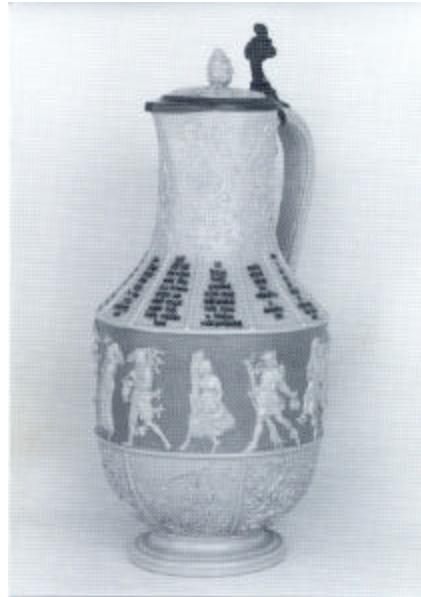


AN OUTSTANDING EXAMPLE OF GERMAN EXPRESSIONS ON A STEIN

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 Wedgwood 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 - Wonnemonde
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 - Erntemonde

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.