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.