

German is the language for sentiment and deep feeling in general. One can apologise much more gracefully in that language than in any other. Hence I always use it, where possible, when I want to write anything affecting. Of course, it is susceptible of funny combinations also, and if one knows how to handle it, he can make it sufficiently amusing. I keep up my German by reading a little every day in the N. T. I began reading it through in German and in Greek Jan'y 1, 1901. I am now as far along as the 9th chapter of Revelation, and if nothing happens will finish the book by the end of the year. I generally translate the Greek into German, consulting the German text when I'm in doubt. At the same time I also look up all the Greek words whose form or meaning I do not know. I wrote a German sermon this week. I don't know whether I will use it or not but wrote it for practice and for use in emergency. I have an old couple at Springfield who are Germans and who would perhaps appreciate an altogether German service. If they desire it, I will give it to them on the 5th Sunday when I administer the communion to them. They are the Grinans of whom I have spoken before, I think.