

been used by jesters in the old Attic comedy and proves that jesters with excessively big parts of the body were predominant elements of a very old tradition (Figure 25).

2. Secondly there is another picture of two phlyakes with their penis rolled up. Their masks are typical especially in regard to the nose and the jaw (Figure 26).
3. Thirdly there is a phlyake with all his typical attributes and a very strange mask, showing a bald head, hardly any nose and a very unusual lower jaw. Besides he is hunchbacked (Figure 27).

It is important to know in this context that the Grecian mimos is represented also in the old Grecian performances with marionettes which already existed in the 5th century B. C. These marionettes had a high degree of perfection as Pseudoaristotle described them (1854, III, 638; Latin translation: Apuleius [1842] 1968).



Figure 30
A playing-card of the 'Hofämterspiel'
(later than 1450). Fool playing a bagpipe.
Courtesy of Deutsches Spielkarten-Museum,
Leinfelden-Echterdingen



Figure 31
A playing-card of the 'Hofämterspiel'.
Fool playing a flute and a drum. Courtesy
of Deutsches Spielkarten-Museum,
Leinfelden-Echterdingen

5. Jestors, Buffoons and Similar Characters in Europe

After considering all these types of jesters we can ask if similar characters are also found in Europe. Here you don't have to look far to find two groups of fools: the folk-fools and the court-jesters, the latter including buffoons, dwarfs (lilliputians), hunchbacks and other deformed persons. The jesters, deformed or not, were often quite intelligent and expressed their thoughts in a witty, smart and piquant way with jokes and puns. Such kind of fools you will find at the courts of England, France,