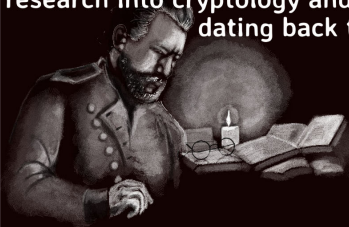


Scholars used the Greek language inscription on the Rosetta stone to solve the parallel inscription in hieroglyphics. In this process, European professors used skills identical with those that might be used to solve a secret code from a foreign country.

When Albert Meyer composed a signal manual in 1864, he included large excerpts from the English surgeon William Blair's grueling and tedious research into cryptology and ciphers dating back to 1807.



Edgar Allen Poe, now famous for his short stories, was an avid amateur cryptologist. As a magazine editor, he often challenged readers to send him challenge ciphers he could not solve. He also incorporated ciphers in his famous short story in 1843, **The Gold Bug**.



**NEW SIGN LANGUAGE for the Deaf and Dumb, or Blind.**—A thesis written by Albert J. Meyer, of Buffalo, has been published by the Faculty of the Medical College, in which the propriety of substituting for the present mode of conversing by signs, used by deaf mutes, an alphabet of dots and dashes, or lines similar to those used by the telegraph, by which a conversation may be carried on in the darkness of night by the sense of feeling or touch with quite as much facility as in daylight, and with more rapidity than by the present mode, is argued with force and plausibility.

In 1851, Meyer wrote his M.D. thesis at the University of Buffalo on sign language. His study of gestures, hand signals, and finger spelling inspired his future flag code.

