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*Presenting a singular opportunity for the discerning collector
of Precision Regulators and Complicated Watches,
the carefully curated, lifelong collection of a New Hampshire horologist*

Saturday, November 2nd 2024

November 2 at 11:30am

Lots 1 - 400 Discovery Sale

Live Bidding Only

November 2 at 3:30pm

Lots 401 - 6XX Live Auction

Absentee, Phone, Online, Live Bidding

Public Preview

Saturday, November 2 at 8am to 11:15pm

Preview Also By Appointment
October 21 to November 1
Candia, New Hampshire

Welcome to Schmitt Horan & Co.'s Fall 2024 live auction event. Lots 1 - 400 are an in-person bidding event only. Lots 401 - 6XX will offer all bidding methods including in-person, online, phone and absentee. Lots 401 - 4XX are included in this catalog, all other lots can be found online.

Auction Location
**80 Raymond Rd
Candia, NH 03034**

Follow us on social media on **Facebook, Instagram, Twitter** and **Youtube**. Please visit schmitt-horan.com to view lots not listed in this catalog and / or additional detail images and condition reports not shown in this catalog.

Additional information on food, parking and accommodations can be found on schmitt-horan.com. For more detailed instructions on bidding, please see terms and conditions at the rear of catalog.

We are always seeking fine consignments. Please contact us for a confidential consultation and appraisal. See invitation at rear of the catalog for more information.

Daniel Horan
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SUMMARY OF TERMS OF SALE

REGISTRATION Is required prior to the sale for all bidders, including online, internet, phone and absentee.

CONDITION OF LOTS We describe and evaluate each lot to the best of our ability. The condition and authenticity should be confirmed by personal examination. The final decision to bid, and the amount to bid is at the bidder's discretion and liability.

ITEMS PURCHASED Successful bidders must remit payment within 15 days of close of the auction. It is the buyer's responsibility to verify that he / she has received accessories that may be separate when taking possession of their merchandise.

BUYER'S PREMIUM Buyers pay 20% premium on the hammer price. Invaluable, Live Auctioneers and Bid-square bidders pay an additional fee of 8%, as well as the 20% buyer's premium.

PAYMENT Acceptable forms of payment include pre-approved personal checks, cash, Paypal, and all major credit cards: VISA, Mastercard, American Express & Discover. There is an additional 3% processing fee for all credit card and Paypal purchases.



An important four pendulum standing Isochronal Clock by E. Howard & Co. for Hezekiah Conant

100

E. Howard, Boston, for Hezekiah Conant, Pawtucket, RI., an important Conant four pendulum "Isochronal Clock", the architectural oak case with molded base below a shallow, reeded cavetto surbase with foliate carving and central reserve, the mid section with fluted and spiral carved columns with turned bases, stylized Composite order capitals, and flanking a glazed door with beveled glass, and the top with fluted columns also having turned bases, carved capitals and flanking a beveled glass door, supporting a molded cornice below an ogee molded pitched pediment, the case sides with glazed doors, and interior of the back marked "11 1888", roman numeral silvered dial signed "H. Conant Patented Aug. 23rd 1887", with six subsidiary dials below, four at the bottom indicating for each of the four escapements and engraved with the beats per minute for each, and two just above for the average of the two escapements combined, all mounted to a square, silvered brass plate signed "E. Howard & Co. Boston" below the main dial, gilt spandrels with scrolls and suggested leaf forms, and blued steel hands, large brass movement with damascened, three part front plate, four escapements driven by two trains, a pair of differentials to average the paired escapements, both geared to a central differential which averages the combined input, and driving the sweep seconds hand, resting on a heavy cast iron bracket mounted to the case back, the four nickel plated, mercury compensated pendulums of different lengths and each with four sealed steel jars, each with its own beat scale supported by tapering brass stands attached to the case bottom, the two trains driven by rectangular lead weights.

Condition: case appears to retain its original finish, in good condition overall with minor bumps and dings, minor loss at the peak of the pediment, and a small loss at the top of the upper left column capital, dial with localized tarnish and discoloration, hands good, movement with some tarnish and fingerprint staining, pendulums with areas of minor oxide and light rust, beat scales with minor tarnish, running. Repaired and serviced by a skilled restorer.

\$300,000 - \$400,000 Circa 1888 96in x 34.25in x 22in

Discussions of timepieces with multiple oscillators naturally include the names of important figures such as Huygens, Janvier, and Breguet, as well as more recent innovators like David Walter and F.P. Journe. Notably absent from that list is Hezekiah Conant (1827 - 1902), the designer of this and other two and four oscillator timepieces. He began his life as mechanic and inventor as an employee at a machine shop when he was about 20 years old. During this time he also learned mechanical drawing and studied mechanical engineering, laying the groundwork for his life's path as an industrialist, mechanic, and inventor.

His idea for the use of multiple oscillators is thought to have come from observatory and navigational practice, whereby the average rate of multiple timekeepers was used in order to facilitate a more accurate result. His movements have separate escapements for each pendulum or balance, consolidating multiple timepieces into one machine, with differentials automatically averaging the rate. This design also incorporates the advantages of sympathetic resonance due to the proximity of the oscillators to each other. Conant believed incorrectly that the increase in accuracy was in proportion to one over the square of the number of oscillators, so that a two pendulum clock would reduce errors to 1/4 of that of a single pendulum, four would reduce it to 1/16, etc. That being said, there is no denying that the clock performed extraordinarily well. His first four pendulum clock was built by Tiffany & Co., and had oscillators of equal length. The timekeeper ordered from E. Howard had pendulums of different lengths, an experiment to verify that the increased accuracy was not exclusively due to the sympathetic resonance of the oscillators of equal length in the Tiffany example. The clocks were on exhibit at the Exposition Universelle of 1889 in Paris, and again at the Worlds Columbian Exposition, held in Chicago in 1893. An exhibition report stated that the Tiffany clock had varied by only 1.5 seconds in 10 months.

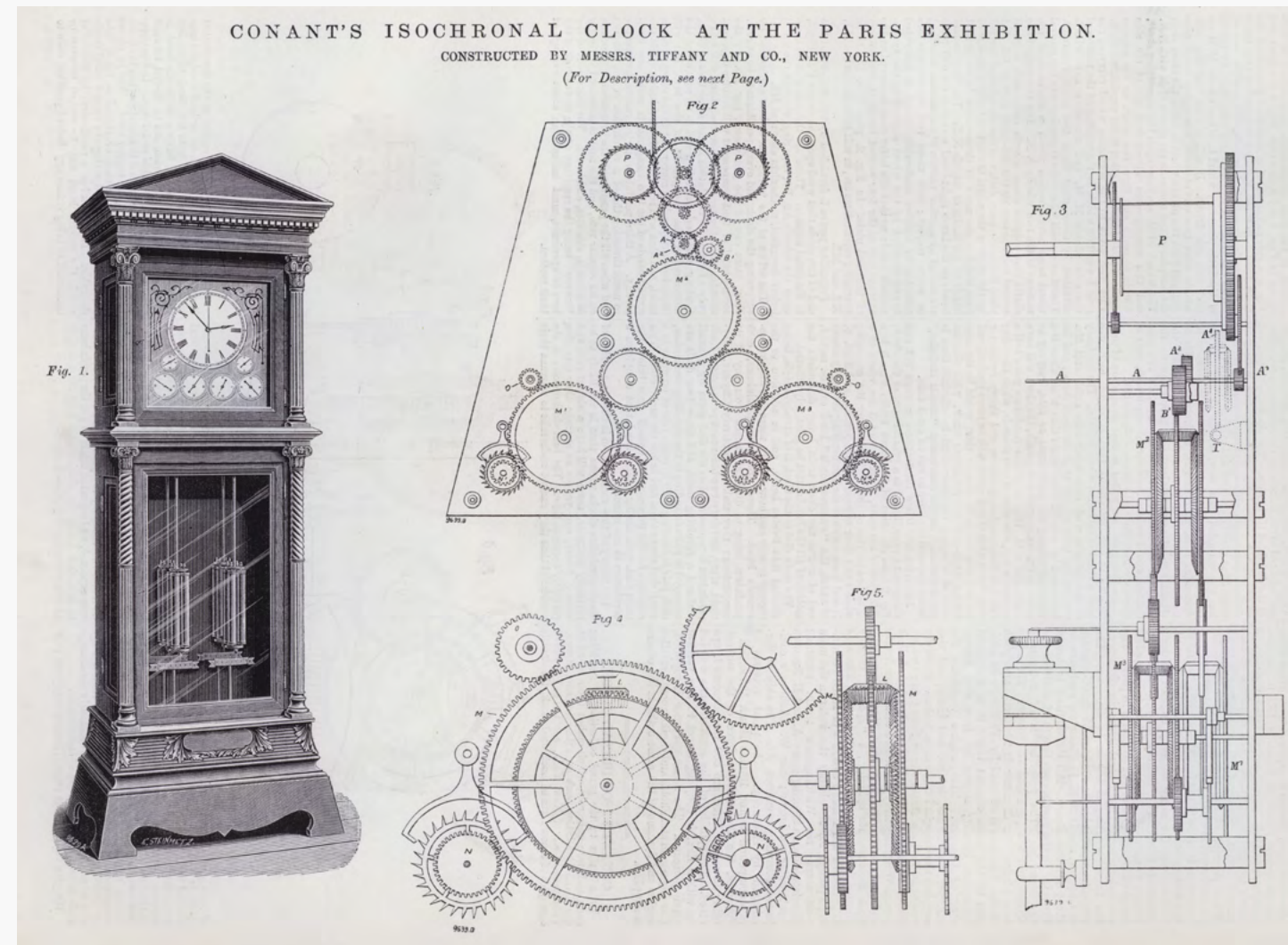


Illustration from Engineering, September 1889 incorrectly attributing the E. Howard & Co. case and movement to Tiffany & Co.



A fine and rare late 19th century Seth Thomas month going standing Precision Clock

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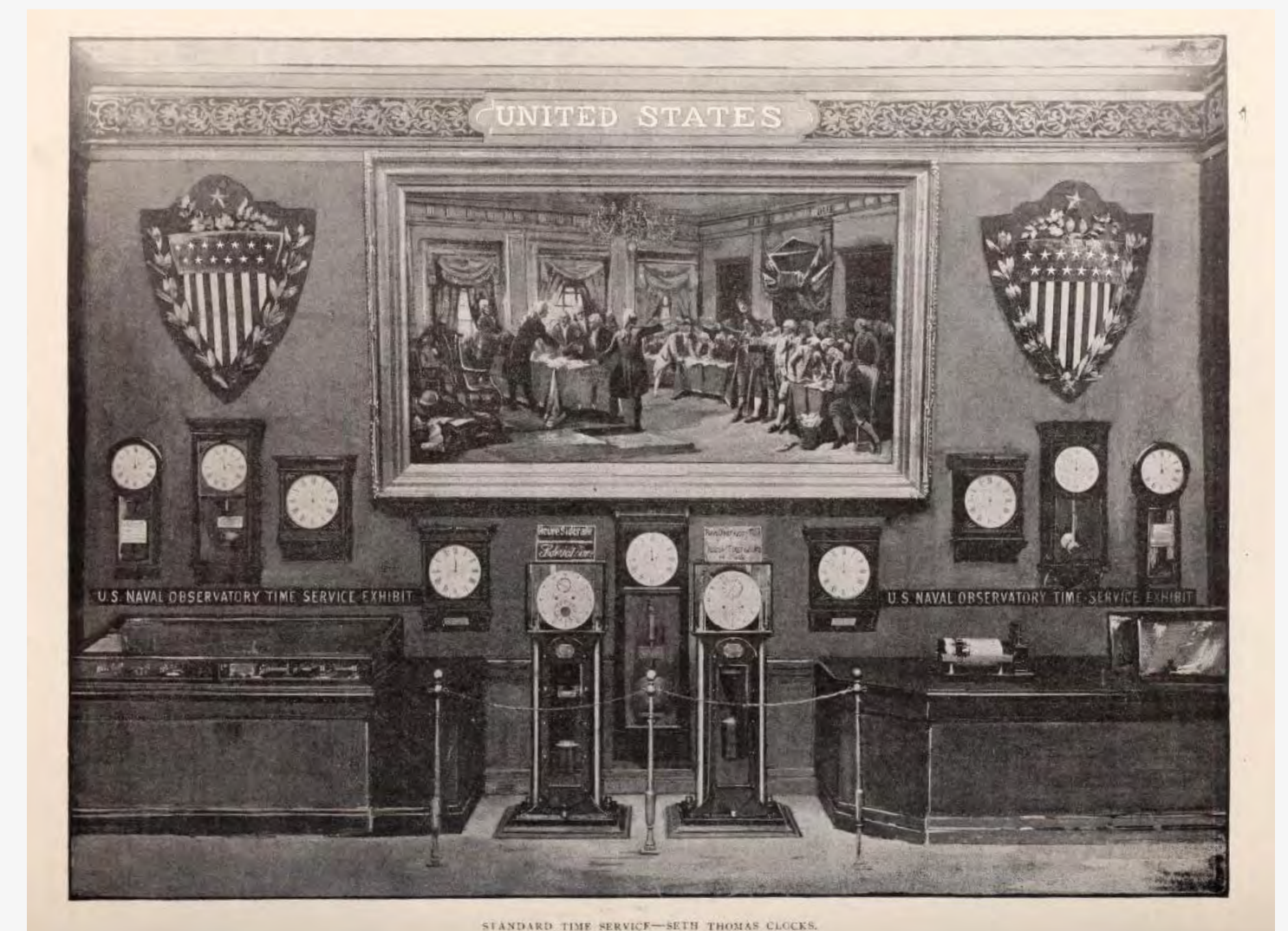
Seth Thomas Clock Co., Thomaston, Conn., a fine and rare late 19th century month going "Precision Clock", the japanned cast iron case with leveling and stabilization screws in the base, the front with glazed iron frame attached with 12 brass screws, and rectangular glazed top with sealed winding apertures, 14 inch arabic numeral silvered astronomical dial with blued steel hands, signed "Seth Thomas No. 7" and "Gardner Transmitting Attachment", the 32 day, eight jewel movement with damascened trapezoidal plates, Graham deadbeat escapement, pendulum crutch fork with ivory pins, and Harrisons maintaining power, driven by two brass weights with jeweled pulleys, descending in polished brass tubes at the case sides, mercury compensated pendulum with large nickel plated steel jar, capstan nut adjustment, brass weight tray for fine rating, silvered vernier beat scale, and locking lever for stabilization of the pendulum while regulating

Condition: case with a few minor chips to finish, dial and beat scale resilvered, dial with minor staining just above the 20 minute mark, movement very good, clean and running, pendulum with very minor localized oxide and losses to plating.

\$200,000 - \$400,000 Circa 1890 62in x 24in x 16in

The second half of the 19th century was a period of intense horological experimentation in the pursuit of further refinement of the accuracy of pendulum controlled timekeepers. In the Seth Thomas pamphlet promoting the Precision Clock, it is stated that "...every feature of design and workmanship has been made subservient to the principal idea of obtaining as high an accuracy in their time measuring qualities as our present knowledge of physical science and of the horological art will allow.", and that their Precision Clock is designed to be "...a time measuring instrument entirely above the line of commercial accuracy and intended for those who desire for purposes of scientific work, or for watch and chronometer rating, or as a standard timepiece for local reference, to have a clock of extreme precision." By 1889, the company advertised that it had eight Precision Clocks in service, including two in Lancaster and Lewisburg, Pa., two at Grinnell, Ia., one in Melbourne, Australia, and three in Chile, with two more being exhibited at the 1889 International Exhibition in Paris, located at the center of the U.S. Naval Observatory Time Service display.

The clock was available in two configurations, one with a Graham deadbeat escapement and running for 32 days, priced at \$1080.00, and the other with 8 day duration and gravity escapement, costing \$1350.00. The design and construction of the clocks was supervised by electrical and metallurgical engineer Dr. Leonard Waldo, the astronomer in charge of the Horological Bureau at the Yale College Observatory. He also served as the assistant astronomer on the U.S. expedition to Tasmania for the observation of the 1874 Transit of Venus. The gravity escapement clocks incorporated the escapement modification of Professor C. S. Lyman, the gravity arms being lifted against large anti friction rollers. Lyman was professor of mechanics and physics at the Yale College Sheffield Scientific School, where he also taught theoretical and practical astronomy. Of the major American clock manufacturers, Seth Thomas, E. Howard & Co., and the Waltham Clock Co. were the only firms to offer timepieces capable of performance suitable for scientific purposes.



U.S. Naval Time Service Display at the Paris Exhibition of 1889 from the Jeweler's Circular and Horological Review, Vol. 20



An important E. Howard & Co. standing regulator with professor Charles A. Young's gravity escapement

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E. Howard & Co., Boston, for the Princeton University Observatory, an important standing precision regulator with Prof. Charles A. Young's gravity escapement, the clock mounted in a cast iron frame with glass panels, the signed movement with damascened plates, six jeweled pivots at the escapement, the rewinding arm, escape wheel locking, impulse lever contact on pendulum and impulse lever rest also jeweled, signed, silvered 24 hour astronomical dial with blued steel hands, six jar mercury compensated pendulum of Young's design, driven by two cast iron weights, serial #194, now in a custom made, architectural cherry case with beveled glasses

Condition: case very good, iron frame good, with minor losses to black paint, lacking the original X braces, now with horizontal bracing, strip of steel added to top of frame, dial with tarnish, hands good, movement good, some nickel plated components with losses to plating, nickel plating on pendulum with minor staining, otherwise very good, running. Repaired and serviced by a skilled restorer.

\$100,000 - \$150,000 Circa 1877 79in x 35in x 23.5in

Charles Augustus Young (1834 - 1908) was one of the leading solar astronomers of the second half of the 19th century. He studied astronomy and solar physics at Dartmouth, and graduated at the top of his class in 1853; at the time of his enrolment, he was 14 years old. He went on to hold teaching positions at a number of institutions, most notably at his alma mater, and then moved on to Princeton in 1877, retiring in 1905. He ordered two regulators from E. Howard & Co. in 1877 for use at the Princeton "Observatory of Instruction", and clocks 193 and 194 were delivered later that year.

The escapement used for the mean time clock was the Dennison 4 legged gravity type, and the sidereal clock was to be fitted with a gravity escapement to his own plan; Young had been experimenting with gravity escapements of his own design as early as 1859. The escapement impulses the pendulum thirty times per minute, or once every two seconds. The compensated pendulum is also of Young's design, employing a hollow, mercury filled rod connected to a horizontal tube below the bob, and also with the vertical tubes on either side of the pendulum. The two clocks that Young ordered for use at Princeton were included in Sotheby's "Masterpieces from the Time Museum", part four, volume III, lots #1139 and 1140, where the consignor purchased the present lot.



Princeton University's Observatory of Instruction, Professor Young's Residence at right, Prospect St, Princeton, New Jersey



A unique E. Howard & Co. year running hanging regulator

100

E. Howard & Co., Boston, Mass., a unique year running hanging regulator, the discorctangular walnut case with door having molded, glazed apertures for viewing the dial and pendulum, and glazed aperture at upper left for viewing the movement, signed roman and arabic numeral silvered dial with blued steel hands and aperture to allow viewing of the escapement, the heavy brass, damascened movement with finely cut wheel train and five spoke crossings, jewelng at the escape wheel, pallet arbor and pallets, Graham dead beat escapement, Harrisons main-taining power, dust shields, and finely engraved escape-ment cocks, four jar mercury compensated pendulum with brass frame and nickel plated jars, and brass clad weight with integral pulley.

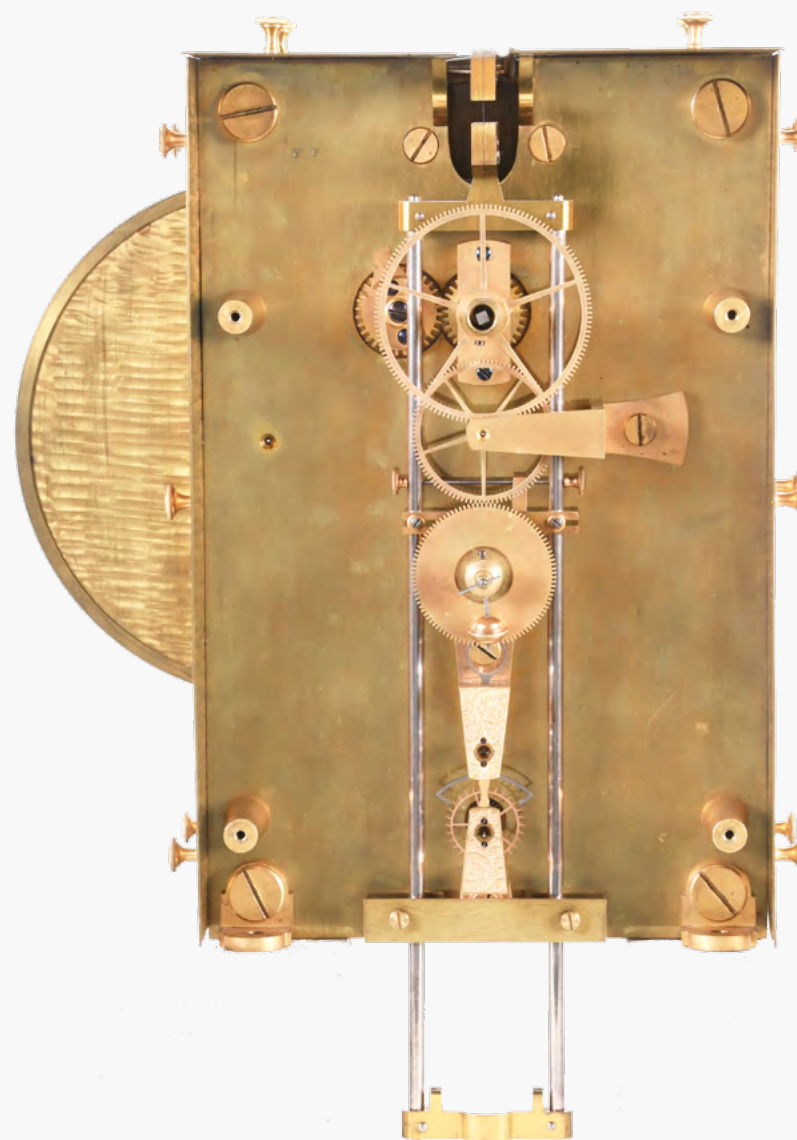
Condition: case very good, with a few minor bumps and dings, not original to movement, the movement, dial and pendulum having been a special order from E. Howard & Co. without a case, dial grained and resilvered, move-ment running, serviced by a skilled restorer and very good overall, escape wheel replaced, pendulum jars with minor oxide and dirt, rod with minor oxide, weight a very well made replacement, with minor marks and fine scratches. Repaired and serviced by a skilled restorer.

\$100,000 - \$150,000

Circa 1900 51.75in x 17.625in x 10.5in

This clock was a special order, placed by Dr. William Rollins of Boston Mass. The E. Howard & Co. factory records contain an entry dated April 27, 1898, which reads as follows: "1 old style regulator movement, arranged to run a year, 14" silvered astro dial, brass weight, etc., all to be mounted on a mahogany board that the Dr. will furnish made according to our dimensions net cash \$200.00 Complete June 29, 1898". While Dr. Rollins residence was at 399 Marlborough St., his dental practice was located at number 250, so the use of the 250 Marlborough Street address in the E. Howard books would suggest that the clock may have been ordered for use in his office. The clock was delivered without a case, but an image survives of a Howard hanging timepiece in the collection of R.S. Stevens, which the present case was modeled after. The locking collar on the great wheel is inscribed on the interior "Set up 5 1898 LP Emerson Roxbury Mass". Emerson was foreman of the Howard movement department, and in charge of setting up special trains. As far as is known, this is the only year running regulator ever made by E. Howard & Co. Dr. William Rollins (1852 - 1929) earned degrees in dentistry and medicine from Harvard University.

Possessed of an inquisitive mind, his avocational studies included physics, astronomy, photography, and radio communi-cations, but his most important and enduring work was in the use of the x ray. He was among the first to warn of the po-tential dangers of exposure to x rays, although his warnings were generally dismissed as sensational, or entirely ignored. His work led him to develop rules for the safe use of the new technology, as well as protective measures and equipment for use by x ray technicians and their patients.



Movement of the present lot



Dr. William Herbert Rollins



An important sidereal standing regulator from the Waltham Watch Co. Observatory vault

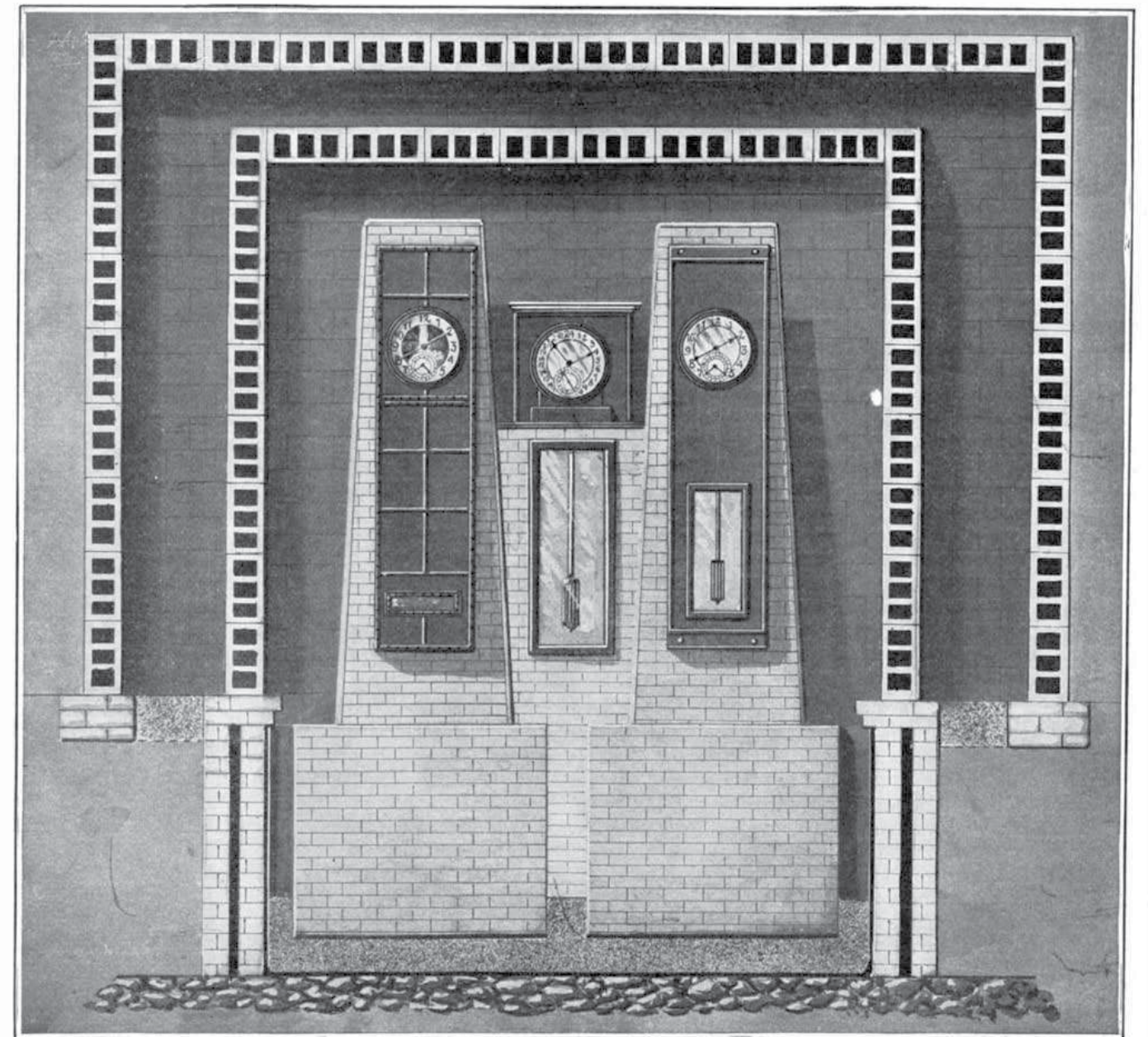
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Waltham Clock Co., Waltham, Mass., an important sidereal standing regulator from the Observatory vault of the Waltham Watch Co., walnut case with figured walnut veneers and molded base, the trunk glazed on four sides, and lift off bonnet glazed on four sides, and with access doors at the front and back, 24 hour signed silvered dial with open center, brass bezel and blued steel hands, movement with gilded triangular plates having scalloped edges, skeletonized back plate, jeweled escape wheel pivots, Harrison's maintaining power, four legged gravity escapement with jeweled pivots and pallets, jeweled two second break circuit mechanism for connection to the observatory's printing chronograph, and gilded A frame pendulum bracket with chamfered supports, all mounted to a spotted iron seat board, nickel plated mercury compensated pendulum with steel jar below a brass fine regulation nut, and nickel plated cylindrical weight

Condition: running, walnut case with some sun bleaching and bloom to finish at base, dial lacquer with minor discoloration, hands with minor bends, otherwise good, movement very good overall, pendulum bracket with small casting flaw at top, seat board with minor localized oxide, nickel plating on pendulum and weight with tiny blisters, minor losses and oxidation, running. Repaired and serviced by a skilled restorer.

\$90,000 - \$120,000 Circa 1900 79in x 35in x 23.5in

By the end of the 19th century, the Waltham Watch Company's operations had increased to the point that their observatory time standard clocks were being disturbed by vibration generated by the machinery. A new clock room was completed in 1904 which addressed the various shortcomings of the previous location. The clocks were fixed to masonry piers that were insulated from vibration, and the room was temperature and humidity controlled. The two existing standard clocks from the original location, one with hermetic cast iron case with provision for reducing its interior atmospheric pressure, the other also cast iron, but without provision for atmospheric control were installed in the new clock room. The "mean time clock", at the right in the illustration, had a 12 hour dial and was used to send time signals throughout the factory. The "astronomical clock", at the left had a 24 hour dial, and could also send signals to the factory if required. The present lot is the central sidereal clock, added upon completion of the new room, and used as the standard for checking the others. The movement with dial, weight, and pendulum were removed from the vault in the mid 20th century, and cased for domestic use. See chapter 13 in Derek Roberts "Precision Pendulum Clocks France, Germany, America, and Recent Advancements" for more information on Waltham precision clocks.



The building is designed to protect the clocks from disturbing influences that would cause variations in the time. Temperature changes and moisture are precluded by the double walls and ceiling providing an 18-inch air space between. Vibrations are avoided by placing the clocks on heavy masonry piers built on a bed of sand. The pair of clocks in the front are the master clocks, which, by electrical connections, give the time throughout the works. The sidereal clock to the rear which is checked, twice each week, by observing the transit of the stars, serves as the standard for the whole works.

American Waltham Watch Co.'s New Clock Room as illustrated in Scientific American, April 15, 1905



**A good seconds beating
inverted hanging regulator
by Charles Fasoldt**

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Charles Fasoldt, Albany, New York, for Dr. J.V.C. Teller, a good seconds beating inverted hanging regulator, the three light case with metal frames finished with gold leaf, the door frame with half round profile, molded mahogany base, the interior of the back with highly figured mahogany veneer, and the top with molded cornice surmounted by a carved crest with central plinth, and a separate, shaped board with figured mahogany veneer concealing the adjustable pendulum suspension bracket, reverse painted roman numeral glass dial with heavy brass bezel and blued steel hands of Fasoldt's pattern, the two jar, nickel plated, mercury compensated pendulum suspended above the weight driven, 15 day movement with heavy brass shaped plates of Fasoldt's design, and with his patented Improved Chronometer Escapement, the lower portion of the front plate engraved "Made For Dr. J.V.C. Teller", above a plate engraved "C. Fasoldt Albany NY Pat. Feb. 1 1859 Mar 7 1865", and base molding with brass plaque which reads "Presented by Dr. J. Ivimey Dowling former property Dr. William E. Milbank".

Condition: gilding on case exterior restored, door with losses to gilding at right, wooden components refinished, base molding and crest with old repairs, dial restored, hour hand with minor oxide at tip, nickel plating on pendulum with minor wear and oxidation, movement good overall, stop work finger and plate at barrel arbor with dings and scratches, running, serviced and repaired in 2019 by a skilled restorer.

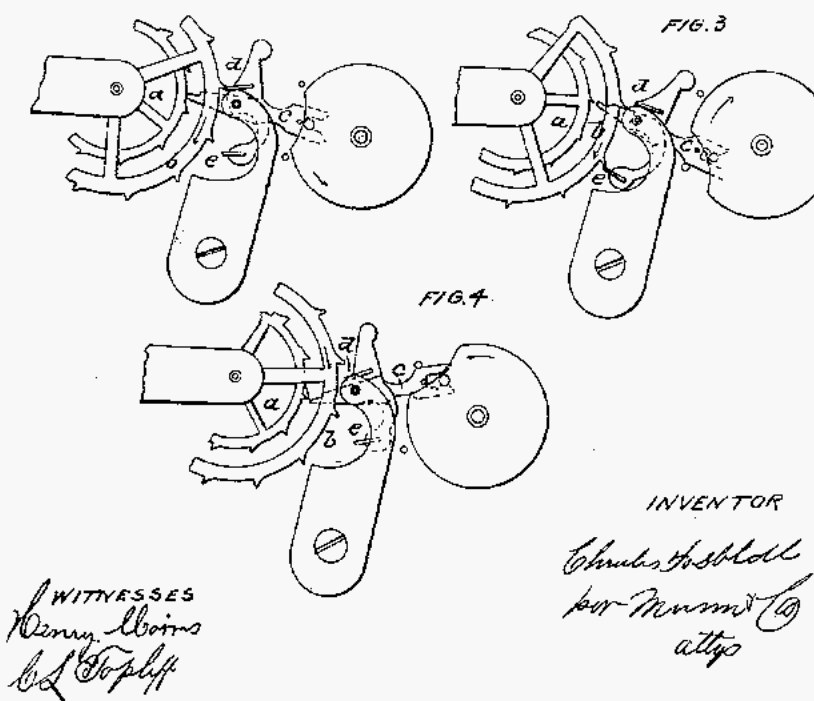
\$80,000 - \$120,000
Circa 1865 69in x 17.625in x 9.5in

Charles Fasoldt (1818 - 1889) emigrated to the United States in 1849 following the failure of the May Uprising in Dresden. He settled in Rome, N.Y., and advertised watch and chronometer making and repairing, as well as gilding and the manufacture of other mechanical instruments. He was granted a patent for a clock escapement in 1859, which would be further developed into his Improved Chronometer Escapement, patented in 1865. This escapement would be employed in the majority of his clocks and watches, as it is in the present lot. He is well known for his unique approach to clock and watch making, and is one of the most significant independent horologists of the second half of the 19th century.

While little biographical information is available regarding Dr. James V.C. Teller (1802 - 1869), his advertisements in newspapers from Ohio to Virginia do reveal significant information regarding his metier. He was a specialist in the treatment of "all forms of private diseases", at his "Old Established Hospital", located at 5 Beaver St., Albany, N.Y. He also claimed cures for "love of solitude", "aversion to society", and "young men addicted to secret habits". According to his advertisements, he treated "more than 20,000 cases annually, with immense success". Teller also published a book that he claimed had sold more than 600,000 copies, titled "Dr. Tellers Pocket Companion or Marriage Guide", which contains medical information, advice, and advertisements for his treatments, medical devices, and patent medicines that were available through his practice.



Partial view of movement of the present lot



Drawing from Fasoldt's March 7th, 1865 Escapement Patent



Charles Fasoldt



**A rare and important
E. Howard & Co.
sidereal regulator
made for the
observation of the
1874 Transit of Venus**

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E. Howard & Co., Boston, a rare and important sidereal astronomical regulator made for the observation of the 1874 Transit of Venus, the dovetailed, rectilinear pine case with two part glazed door, the joint just below the dial, the frame and panel back board with heavy cast iron movement mounting bracket and silvered beat scale, signed, arabic numeral white painted astronomical dial with blued steel hands, signed, weight driven brass movement with four legged gravity escapement, the arms with jeweled pivots and locking, Harrison's maintaining power, hunting tooth stop work and mercury compensated pendulum with nickel plated rod, large, mercury filled cylindrical steel bob, and four arm fine regulation nut, serial #627.

Condition: in an old refinish, back edge of case sides with a bit of paint from a careless workman, scattered dings, minor scratches, and minor staining, a few small chips, four small holes in right side near top, two small holes at top of door, lower left dovetail joint a bit loose, and now with hook and eye support, door catch and lock functional, lacking weight baffle, door panel replaced with transparent glass (panel survives and is included with the lot), porcelain knob on door catch with small loss, dial with very minor losses to paint at edge and light wear to seconds bit, hands good, movement a bit dirty, pendulum with minor losses to plating and minor oxide, bob now filled with lead shot, running.

\$70,000 - \$100,000 Circa 1874 57in x 18.25in x 10.25in

In 1874, the United States, Great Britain and France assembled teams to observe the Transit of Venus, in an effort to collect data to be used to further refine the calculated value of the Astronomical Unit, the average distance of the sun from earth. A more accurate AU would allow astronomers to more precisely calculate the distances of other celestial bodies from earth and each other, and ultimately gauge the size of the solar system. The US government ordered eight sidereal regulators from E. Howard & Co. in May of 1874 to be used by the American expeditionary teams, stationed at various points around the globe.

The clock offered here was stationed at Whangaroa Bay in the Chatham Islands, roughly 430 nautical miles east of New Zealand's South Island. The timepiece was returned to the US Naval Observatory following the transit observations, and redeployed in 1884 to their observatory at Mare Island, which provided time signals to the Pacific coast and for navigational purposes. A companion clock from the expeditions, transit regulator #624, is discussed in Derek Roberts "Precision Pendulum Clocks: France, Germany, America, and recent advancements". No. 627 is the only example from this group which remains in private hands.



Observatory and equatorial telescope at Whangaroa Bay, Chatham Islands, 1874 (left) and the observatory at Mare Island Naval Shipyard in Vallejo, California, 1904 (right)



A T. Cooke & Sons sidereal and mean time astronomical regulator with seven leg gravity escapement

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T. Cooke & Sons, York & London, a late 19th century astronomical regulator displaying mean and sidereal time, the upper portion of the mahogany case with hinged, four light lift off enclosure with brass joints and shuttered winding aperture in the front glass, the base with panels on three sides, the back board also of frame and panel construction and with mahogany veneer, barometer/ thermometer with silvered dial, and silvered beat scale, 14 inch silvered astronomical dial with mean and sidereal chapters below the center, large sidereal seconds bit above, sidereal minutes at the periphery, and blued steel hands, the large, weight driven movement with shaped plates, very well made high count wheels and pinions, Harrisons maintaining power, and seven leg gravity escapement, sidereal seconds beating pendulum with brass sheathed bob engraved with crown, cipher, and "Solar Physics 35", with hole for steadying the bob while adjusting the regulating nut, and scale showing the change in the bob position, driven by a brass clad weight with attached pulley. Provenance - Norman Lockyer Observatory Corp., Hill Observatory, Salcombe Regis, Sidmouth, Devon, Christies sale 7410, lot 132, Cottone Auctions, March 2023, lot 35

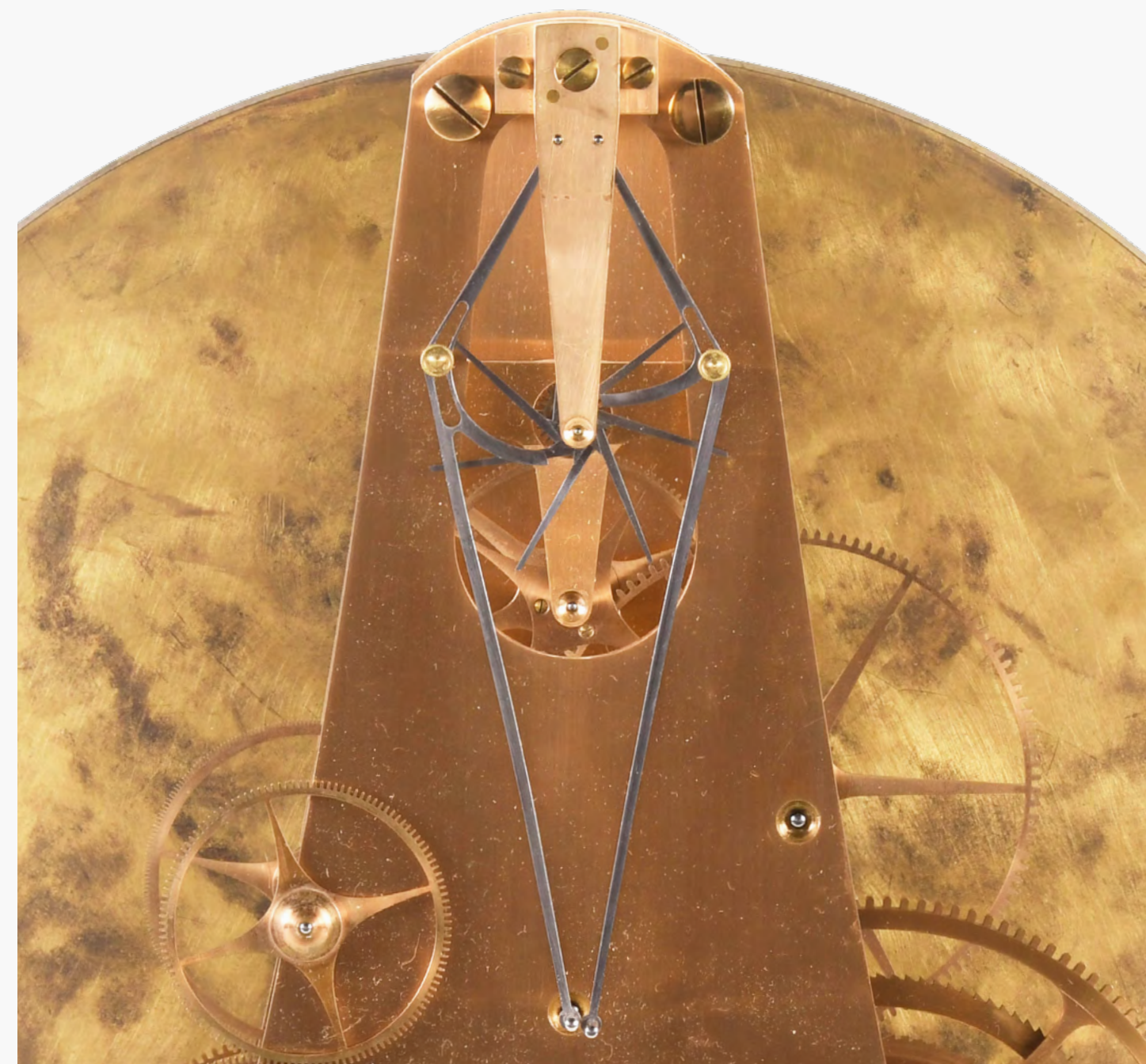
Condition: case good overall, mahogany with sun bleaching, back board with splits to veneer from panel shrinkage, barometer and beat scale good, dial and hands very good, pendulum bob with minor spotting, weight with minor localized spotting, running. Recently serviced by a skilled restorer.

\$40,000 - \$60,000

Circa late 19th century 77.75in x 19.75in x 14in

Thomas Cooke (1807 - 1868) was born into a poor family, and received very little in the way of formal education. Having taken an interest in the voyages of James Cook, the young autodidact studied navigation, astronomy, mathematics and optics. While he never went to sea, he did use his accumulated knowledge to teach local children, and eventually established a school at Skirpenbeck, Yorkshire, England. He later taught mathematics at Rev. Shackley's school, and in his free hours experimented with the manufacture of telescopes. In 1836 he founded his first scientific instrument works, manufacturing telescopes, surveyors tools, and other instruments. He opened a turret clock manufactory in 1852, and by 1860 had achieved an international reputation.

That he was not trained as a clockmaker is evident in the design of the present timepiece, from the unconventional gravity escapement to the shape of the movement plates. That said, the movement construction and finishing are on par with the leading makers of his day. See Derek Roberts "English Precision Pendulum Clocks", pages 137 - 139 for descriptive text and images of this regulator. Roberts comments that "It employs a seven legged gravity escapement, the only one we can recall having seen...". We have been unable to locate any other 7 leg escapements, and so this clock may well be unique.



Partial view of movement of the present lot featuring Cooke's unconventional seven leg gravity escapement