

Description of Clock presented to Queen's College Cambridge in 1664, by Edward East, Clockmaker to King Charles I. & Charles II. Original member of the Court of Assistants of the Clockmakers' Company, (1631), and Master of that Company 1645 & 1652.

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This clock was evidently originally of the standard Lantern type as is seen from the accompanying photograph. Probably to make it more imposing as a presentation piece, the square engraved dial was fitted. In order to do this it will be noticed that part of the two front finials has had to be filed away.

Originally it would only have had a single hour hand and have been fitted with a verge escapement with a bob pendulum approximately $10\frac{1}{2}$ inches long beating about $\frac{1}{2}$ seconds, since at the date of its presentation, 1664, the Anchor escapement with which it is now fitted had not been invented. The earliest known application of this escapement is in the turret clock in the Science Museum made by its inventor, William Clement in 1671, for King's College, Cambridge.

After the invention of the Anchor escapement in 1671 the long case, or grandfather clock, as we know it to-day became possible and popular. Many lantern clocks with verge escapements were converted to the Anchor escapement with long pendulums as the time keeping was considerably enhanced. This was done in our case probably somewhere around 1680/90 and at the same time the minute hand with its relative motion work added.

Its subsequent addition is shown ~~ix~~ by two factors:- 1), it has to be set independently of the hour hand \rightarrow in the photograph of the dial it will be noticed that the minute hand position does not correspond with the fraction of the hour indicated by the hour hand, it has not been correctly set and 2), the ~~four~~ studs seen protruding through the centre of the lower wheel affixed to the centre upright are filed from the solid on the end of the arbor or shaft in the clock movement which turns once an hour and drives the hour wheel of 48 teeth, seen loose in the photograph, once round in 12 hours. The two smaller wheels on the centre upright, each with the same number of teeth, are later additions; the lower one has been drilled to allow the passage of the 4 studs instead of being fixed to the arbor and having holes drilled in it to take the studs as would have been the simpler way had the work been done at the same time as the original construction of the clock.

Since the arbor turns once an hour the lower wheel will turn once an hour too and since the wheel above it with which it engages and which carries the minute hand, has the same number of teeth, the minute hand will make one revolution an hour.

The clock would originally have stood on a bracket with ~~xxxxxxx~~ the chain and weights hanging below. When the conversion to Anchor escapement took place, no doubt the clock was "modernised" by encasing the weights and adding a hood.

In the ~~four~~ finials are drilled two sets of holes, the lower ones were to take the bell in a lower position when the hood was made. The finial above the bell was also cut off at this time. Since then a piece of backing board has been fixed at the back of the hood which prevents the hood being replaced with the bell in position and some other way of strengthening the hood will have to be found, if this be the purpose of this backing board, if the bell is to be replaced.

The making of the case was evidently entrusted to a local cabinet maker who was totally unacquainted with clock case design.

H.A.L.

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