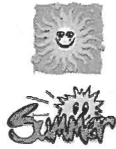


Number 36
June 2005



Paul Odendahl
Editor & Publisher

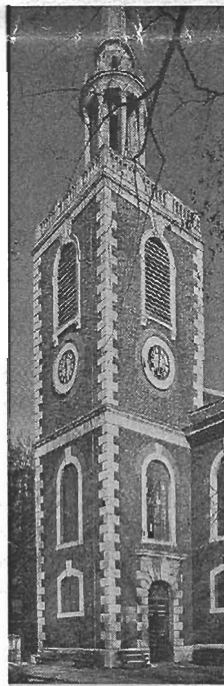
British Horology Times

NAWCC CHAPTER 159

News FROM CHAPTER 159

This issue of British horology times is being printed and mailed early for a specific reason. Since all of the Committee and Special Interest Chapter meetings at the National in Ft. Lauderdale are being held on one day, a tremendous number of conflicts resulted. After two changes to attempt to allow Vice President Lee Yelvington, Dennis Radage our speaker, and myself, to all be together at our entire chapter meeting, it is now scheduled for the time and place on Thursday shown in the box on page 2. I wish that I could say that the time does not conflict with other meetings to be attended by some of you, but it does. All attempts to get our meeting rescheduled for Friday failed. Since registration for the National does not open until noon on Thursday, our meeting, along with many others, will start before registration opens.

Our speaker in Ft. Lauderdale will again be Dennis Radage. The talk will be on the restoration of a cartel clock by Andrews of Devon (see page 4 for a description of the talk). Members and guests who have attended previous



The Church of Saint Mary in Rotherhithe, London.

presentations by Dennis know that we can expect a memorable lecture.

Those of you who attended the Chapter 159 meeting at the Southern Ohio Regional on April 8th were privileged to see and hear an excellent general interest presentation on the Chapter 159 Tower Clock Tour of England in October 2000 by Frank Del Greco. A more complete report on the meeting will appear in Chapter Highlights in a future issue of the *Bulletin*. The meeting was capped off by Tom Spittler who showed us some 30 hour movements from the 17th and 18th centuries with unusual features. If you missed the meeting you may want to contact Frank to see if he might be interested in making the Tower Clock presentation to your home chapter.

We are considering the possibility of sending British Horology Times as an email attachment to those who want to receive it that way. All others would continue to receive it via USPS. Please send your comment to Paul or to me.

-Roger Gendron

EDITOR'S CORNER

"The more things change the more they stay the same."

That is, except for our annual chapter meeting at the National. Page 2 shows time and place of our "Next Meeting" which is correct at the date of publication but be careful; check upon arrival.

A chapter member has suggested that we make it easy to reach the chapter officers and editor, and a very good suggestion it is. So you will find that on page 8 and we intend to repeat it in each issue. That's a change, although the people themselves are the same.

Our long running story about Henry comes to a conclusion with this issue. If you can call that a change. But with the absence of that to count on for publication, our need for new material is the same as it has been except that our need is now more acute.

Please give some thought to how you can help by writing something for all to read. The fellows listed in the box on page 8 will be glad to help with any questions or worries you might have about getting yourself published. Write it down. You might find that it's fun.

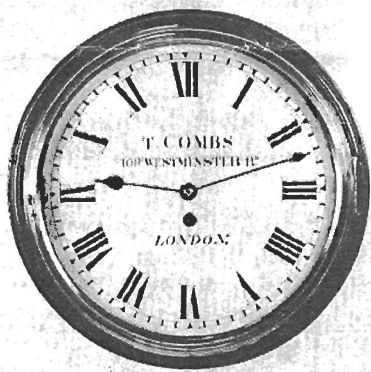
- Paul Odendahl



PHONIES and PHAKES

Internet buyers beware! Here is information about convincingly made up English clocks and watches seen during two days of antique fair attendance during a March 2004 trip to the English midlands.

- Chinese reproductions of English dial clocks. These look superficially OK, with fusee timepiece movements, and are mostly in the more desirable small sizes (eight and ten inch dials). They come in round head style as well as short drop dial cases. They are the right wood color and are identified on the dial with one of several well known London clockmaking firms of the latter 1800s. Priced at about \$130, new and "crisp", I am told that some are being disassembled, aged and sold as originals for over \$500. In the case of those that have drops, the pendulum windows are larger than the originals.



This dial clock is authentic. Doug found good-looking Chinese reproductions.

- Old painted and brass 30 hour English longcase dials which are mar-

ried by way of a false plate to brand new movements. The movements are substantial but without the finishing details of the original movements. Also saw an 8-day one, more complicated of course because the winding arbors have to line up with the dial holes. These were about \$250 to \$500.

- Brand new longcases with painted dials and 8-day time and strike movements in deal (pine) cases. These are not intended to deceive and I'd call them new clocks in an **old style rather than reproductions**. They do have spurious makers names on the dials.
- Brand new fusee bracket clock timepiece movements with silvered 6 inch round dials. The first one I saw looked very good. Then I saw its identical twin off to one side. About \$1500 as I recall.
- And finally something completely different and quite alarming. A new gilt pair cased watch made as a good copy of a circa 1760 verge watch, complete with a matching chatelaine and its appendages. The dial was white porcelain with appropriate size and quality of numbering, with only a winder absent from the whole package. The first clue is the brightness of the electroplated whole. It really looks new and not quite the right color for period gold or gilding. There are no case or movement markings but the pillars, fusee, cock and fittings all look right for the period. But the movement gearing is not for a verge escapement and I was unable to get a decent look inside. Appeared to be some sort of pin pallet escapement. Seller would not reveal origin, nor even clearly admit



Doug Cowan (OH) gives another of his meaty tips.

that it was new, though he didn't declare it to be old either.

The moral is "look at everything with a critical eye"! ☹

-Doug Cowan

NEXT MEETING

At Ft. Lauderdale during the NAWCC National, Thursday June 9, 2005 at 11 AM, Room 123.

Dennis Radage will present a program on an English cartel clock. You won't want to miss it.



BRITISH HOROLOGY TIMES
IS A NEWSLETTER OF
BRITISH HOROLOGY
CHAPTER 159 OF THE
NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF
WATCH AND CLOCK
COLLECTORS

British Horology Times is published
3 times yearly by
THE ROYAL ARCHIVISTS
975 Topaz St.
New Orleans LA 70124

Editor: PAUL ODENDAHL

All correspondence, manuscripts and applications for membership should be sent to Roger Gendron, 7301 Ronrick Place, Frankenmuth MI 48734-9107; email: RandJGendron@worldnet.att.net
Opinions expressed in articles in this newsletter are those of the writers and are not necessarily endorsed by the Chapter and/or by the newsletter and/or by the National Association.

Annual membership costs: USA \$5; Canada \$5 overseas \$6 — in US funds or equivalent.

Copyright© 2005 by
British Horology Chapter 159

PRINTED IN THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

MILLING MACHINE

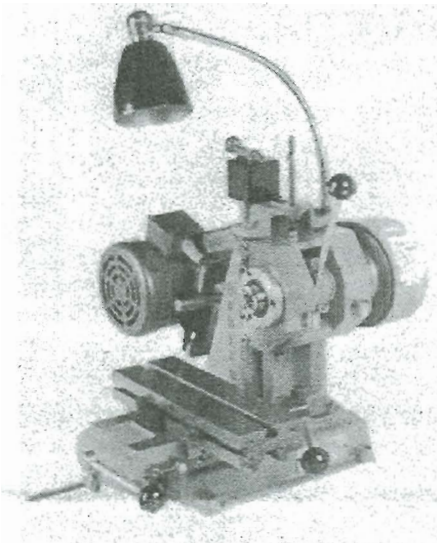
Ken Johnston (NC) gives us details of his \$99 "search and purchase" adventure. It's an example of how to write an enjoyable tale about one's horological activity.

We all do strange things. This little story is one of my aberrations. In my earlier years I would probably not broadcast this to all my friends. The only person who I am sure would share my enthusiasm for my new acquisition - which to others may be regarded as a lapse of reason - is so entrenched with the old ways that he will be reading this long after you do. So what is all the mystery? I bought a Barker Mill.

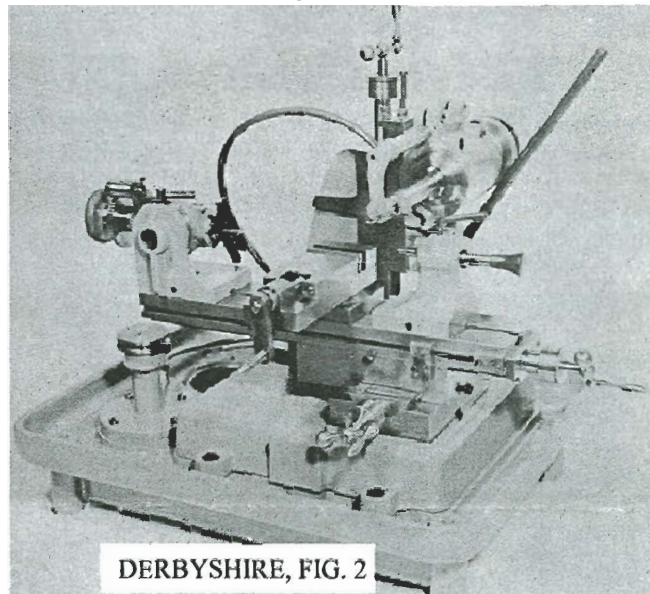
It all started when I came across the mill in August 2002. I was not aware of the machine prior to this. The PM Barker Mill, Figure 1, is a bench top mill with a horizontal drive shaft and a 4" x 12" working table designed to machine metal in a production environment. While this is a heavy machine for commercial work, it's interesting to compare it to a Derbyshire Micromill, Figure 2. Both have a similar layout and action.

The table below compares the two mills.

The pictures are from the respective catalogues:



BARKER, FIG. 1



DERBYSHIRE, FIG. 2

BARKER PM		DERBYSHIRE 750-S
4" x 12"	<i>Table Working Surface</i>	2-3/8" x 12"
5"	<i>Longitudinal Travel</i>	3.15"
3"	<i>Head, Vertical Travel</i>	Micrometer 1.73", Lever .984"
3"	<i>Saddle, Cross Travel</i>	1.26"
#3-C Standard Collet, 1/2" diameter through Collet Draw Tube	<i>Spindle Nose</i>	3/8" Cutter Arbor

Continued »



Ken Johnston is Secretary of Chapter 159.

Editor's note:

A little asking around tells me that the Derbyshire, which is a UK made machine, was originally built to handle work connected with the timing fuses of large shells.

The Barker could be used to cut wheel teeth. It could also do crossing out of a clock wheel, as well as to machine surfaces, grooves and key-ways.

MILLING MACHINE, from page 3

The catalogue net weight of the Barker is 175 lbs. (it feels like more) and there's the rub. The first one I saw on ebay was on the West Coast and would have cost an additional \$375 for shipping. The second was in New York and would have cost \$178. Then an incredible turn of coincidences occurred and the timing, price and location all fell into alignment.

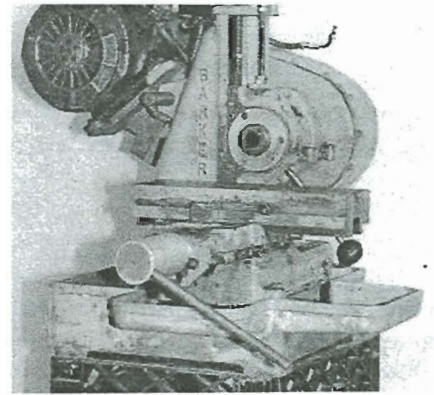
A third mill came up and closed on ebay days before we set out for the seminar in Massachusetts. I was the only bidder and got it for \$99. We were stopping over in New York and the vendor was only about ten miles away from where we were staying on Long Island. Two men lifted it into the back of my van (I could not have done it on my own) and I took it to the seminar. Thus I saved the cost of shipping.

Figure 3 is a picture of my mill after I cleaned it up. It also has a coolant pump. It has seen some hard work and requires a little TLC which I will enjoy giving it.

I have never seen a Derbyshire Micromill for sale. The 1953 list price for a 750-S with an oil pan and coolant pump was \$981. I suspect that if one came up for auction it would fetch far more today.

So that's the story of my most recent adventure. If you feel you have to ask "What are you going to do with it?" you just don't understand and that's OK too. ☺

-Ken Johnston



Ken Johnston's Barker Mill, Fig.3

HERE'S WHAT'S IN STORE WHEN YOU ATTEND THE FT. LAUDERDALE MEETING

At the meeting of British Horology Chapter 159 (see page two of this newsletter for time):

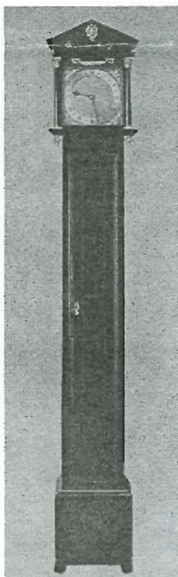
Dennis Radage will be giving a talk on "Restoration of an 18th Century Cartel Clock". He will cover the acquisition and restoration of an unusual English carved giltwood Cartel Clock. The case was quite distressed, but mostly complete. The anchor escapement and spring fusee plated movement were also complete, but likely had not been operating for quite some years. Dennis will give a pictorial review of the restoration of the movement and the case.



Cartel Clock

And at a National Convention Lecture:

Dennis Radage will be giving a three part lecture titled "The History of English Clocks, Watches and Chronometers". Part 1 will cover the evolution of English clocks from the 13th century to the late 19th century, discussing clock types and key events and inventions that enabled England to gain the lead in the making of quality clocks for some 200 years from c1660.



Architectural

England is usually considered slow with the development of early clocks and watches. Part 2 shows how a series of events and discoveries enabled England to lead in the quality, precision and manufacturing of watches for almost the same period as for clocks.

The last part summarizes the need and the events that led to the development of a clock that performed with accuracy and stability on board a ship at sea. The birth of the chronometer, the solution to the centuries old "Longitude" problem, and the King's ransom for the solution will conclude Dennis' pictorial lecture.



H4

HENRY - Part 14 by Paul Odendahl (LA)

Our story about Henry now comes to an end. For five years (since November 2000) we have followed Henry beginning in the Spring of 1651 when he was in Scotland enlisted in the New Model Army. It was here that he experienced his first encounter with clocks, all the while being watched over by his sergeant. Then, as a civilian, he was befriended by Major Buffington and then by the Tompion family which meant daily exposure to clockmaking. There followed a move to London and Edward East, then Paris and Baltazor Martinot and Christiaan Huygens, followed by a return to London just in time for the Great Fire and Whitehall and its occupants.

By the 1670s Henry and his colleagues were busily working in London, sharing thoughts and ideas whilst pursuing their trade. Henry made a sentimental journey to Bedford House and the Buffingtons in 1690 to present them with a small gift of gratitude.

Now, one August day in 1692, shortly after he had moved to his new shop in Inner Temple Gate, Henry was in the front room of the shop and Joseph Norris¹ was in back at his bench. As he placed the finished but unsold clocks so they could be seen to their best advantage, the teaching of Henry's late father came to his mind:

*"Neither do men light a candle and put it under a bushel, but on a candlestick, and it giveth light unto all that are in the house. Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father which is in heaven."*²

¹ Joseph Norris worked at Henry's premises until he returned to Abingdon in 1696.

² Matthew 5:15-16

Business was slow. Henry just sat there musing and relaxing. The panorama of his thoughts ranged from Scotland to Bedford to France, and he pictured Louis XIV, Huygens, Charles II, Mr Tompion at the forge and the old Sergeant.

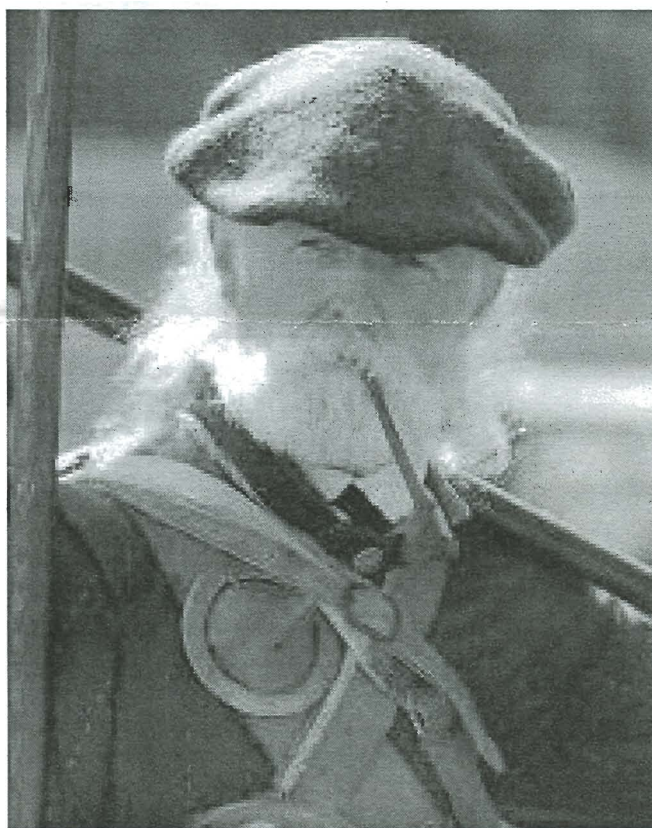
His peaceful reverie was softly interrupted by the appearance of a silhouette in the open doorway. This was a big man and he carried a satchel over his shoulder.

As he came closer Henry could see his shock of hair now gone grey.

"Mornin' to ye." He stopped at the counter and added, "...Henry."

In a flash it hit Henry. There was a beard. The red hair was white. The clothes were civilian, but... this was the Sergeant!

Henry burst out from behind the counter and grabbed him.



This was the Sergeant.

Continued on page 6

HENRY from page 5

"Sergeant! Welcome! I'd know your voice anywhere! Come, sit down. What are you doing here? How are you? The questions just cascaded from Henry.

Ever in charge, even without uniform or weapons, the Sergeant said, "Sit down, Henry, let me look at ye. Ye're a sight for a sore eye."

That was it. Henry knew that something was wrong with the Sergeant's face. His right eye was glassy.

"Yep," said the Sergeant, noting Henry's stare. "I lost it about a month after ye left. Another crazy Scot with a torch."

"Tell me everything," said Henry. "Tell me where you live, what you are doing."

The Sergeant took a breath and launched into his story.

"I live in Peebles. Married the daughter of Angus Macune, the caretaker at Neidpath Castle. So you see I don't hold anything against the Scots. I have three grandchildren now and I am making fishermen of them. We make a decent living from the salmon.

Never got back to England except for this trip.

"Are they with you?"

"Oh, no. I'm in London to collect my back pay. After all those years in the New Model, they finally decided to disband but they didn't pay. Now Parliament has become honest and is giving us back pay. I had to come here to get it." He patted his satchel.

The Sergeant continued: "I'm also here for something else."

"What's that?"

"Well, ahh... well, uh..."

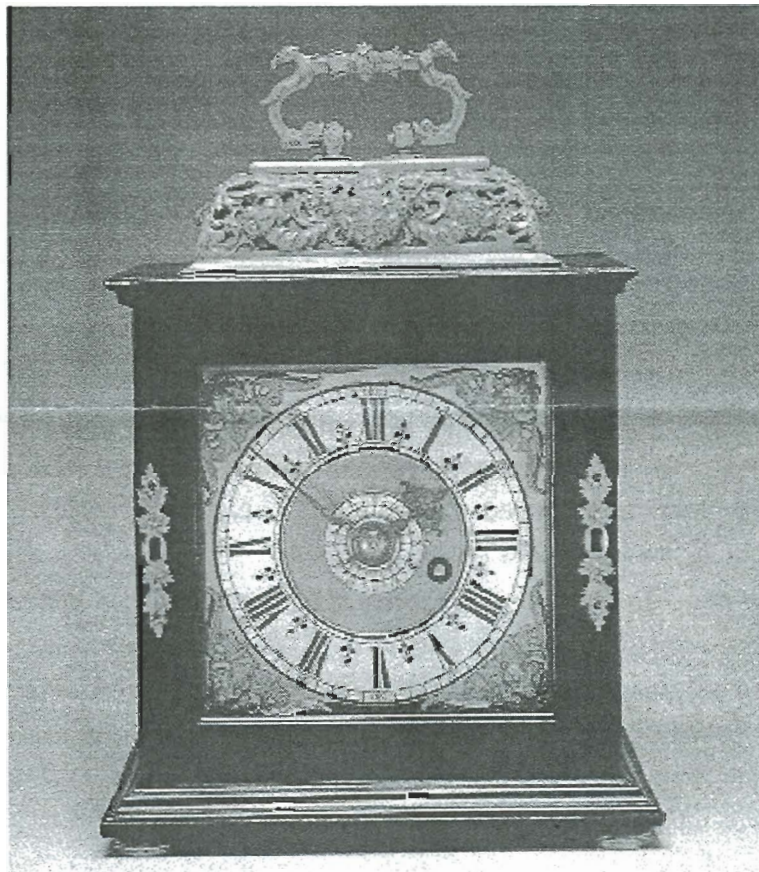
The Sergeant was having a hard time spitting it out.

"What can I help you with?"

"I came to buy one of your clocks."

Henry was ready, but not for that. He was speechless.

"There's talk, even up in Scotland, about clocks made in London. I kept thinking of ye and when I arrived here I heard your name spoken. Sure enough, the lad I used to try to keep from looking through the

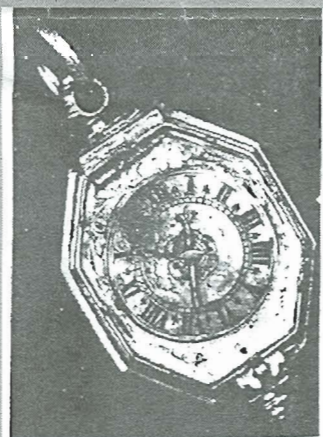


The Sergeant's clock

Scenes from Henry's reverie -



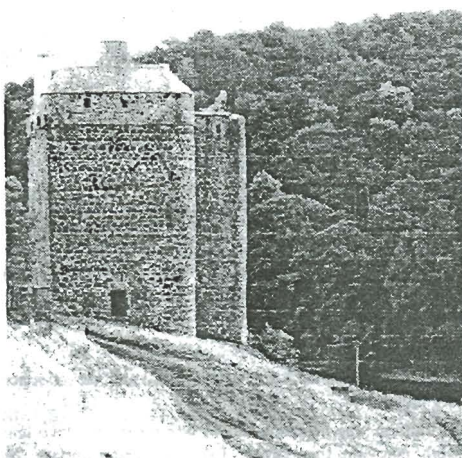
1650. Soldiers desecrating a church.



1650. Mrs Oliver Cromwell's watch.



1650. A "brass clock".



Neidpath Castle.

ruins of clocks, now makes clocks. I knew it would happen. I went to the wrong address but they directed me here. Lad, if ye would sell me a clock it would make me very happy. I can pay," and he patted his satchel again.

"Just a moment, Sergeant, before we get into that. Are you armed?"

"Why, no," looking over his shoulder.

"Wait."

Henry went into the shop and emerged with a dagger.

"Take this. You shouldn't be walking around with money in a satchel at all. But this might be of help. It's Sheffield steel. I got it between Peebles and Moffat." He handed over the sheath also.

"Right," said the Sergeant.

"Now you say you want to buy a clock. Take a look at these three. Do you see one you like best?"

It was obvious that the Sergeant didn't know what to look for.

"They all have two hands," observed the Sergeant.

"Yes, they all do now. You'll get used to it."

"See this one?" said Henry. "Just finished, Brand new. Has all the latest refinements. Even has an alarm."

"Pretty," said the Sergeant. "I will buy it. How much?"

Henry was ready for that question. His mind



1651. Bedford House.



1651. Mrs Buffington.



1651. The Tompion house.



1651. Mrs Tompion

HENRY from page 7

had been clicking while they were talking.

“One pound, six.”

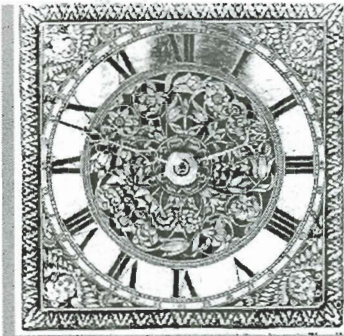
Up came the satchel. Out came two pounds. While Henry reached into his pocket for the change, the Sergeant said:

“Lad, do ye think ye could autograph it for me? Maybe your name on a piece of parchment wedged inside?”

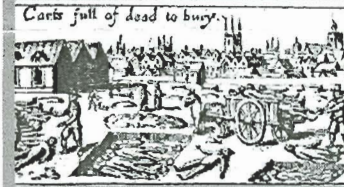
Henry just looked at him. With a wrenching smile he slowly rotated the clock until the back was facing the Sergeant’s left eye, and opened the door. There, engraved in a lambrequin, amid scrolling vines and flowers, the Sergeant read

*Henry Jones
in the Temple*

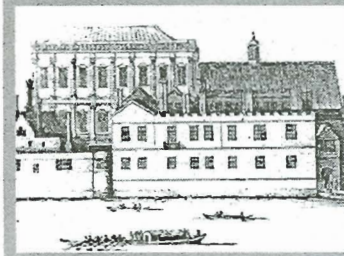
This concludes the story about 17th century Henry. It was a study in English history with a bit of fantasy and imagination woven in. Paul Odendahl says he hopes that you enjoyed it.



1658. Dial from a clock made by East and Fromanteel.



1664. The Plague - Mrs East died.



1666. Whitehall.



1675. A spring clock by Henry.



1680. A spring clock by Tompion.

Officers and the editor of British Horology Chapter 159

Roger Gendron, President
RandJGendron@worldnet.att.net

Lee Yelvington, Vice-President
itsabouttime@mindspring.com

Ken Johnston, Secretary
horology@newbermnc.com

David Kern, Treasurer
dkern@optonline.net

Paul Odendahl, Editor of BHT
peoden@cox.net



NEEDED: material for publication. Your knowledge, experiences, thoughts, favorite clock, etc. Send it in with pix.

Send to Paul Odendahl, email: peoden@cox.net, or 975 Topaz St., New Orleans LA 70124. (Questions gladly answered.)

CONTENTS

- NEWS From President Roger Gendron 1
- PHONIES & PHAKES by Doug Cowan 2
- MILLING MACHINE by Ken Johnston 3
- LECTURES AT FT. LAUDERDALE by Dennis Radage 4
- HENRY Part 14 of a 17th century historical story by Paul Odendahl 5