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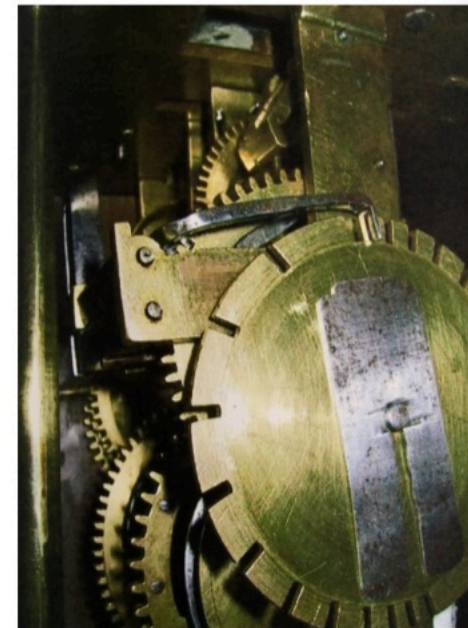
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COXETER, NICHOLAS. London. Sometimes Coxetre and Coxeater. He was born about 1625 and was apprenticed through the Clockmakers' Company in October 1638 to John Pennock (through Richard Masterson) till 1646 and was made free in March 1646/7. He took as apprentices: August 1647 William Coxeter, free September 1654; January 1647/8 Thomas Wheeler, free February

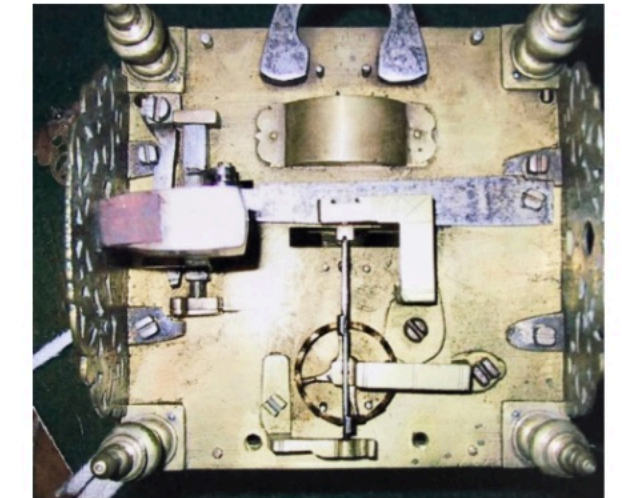


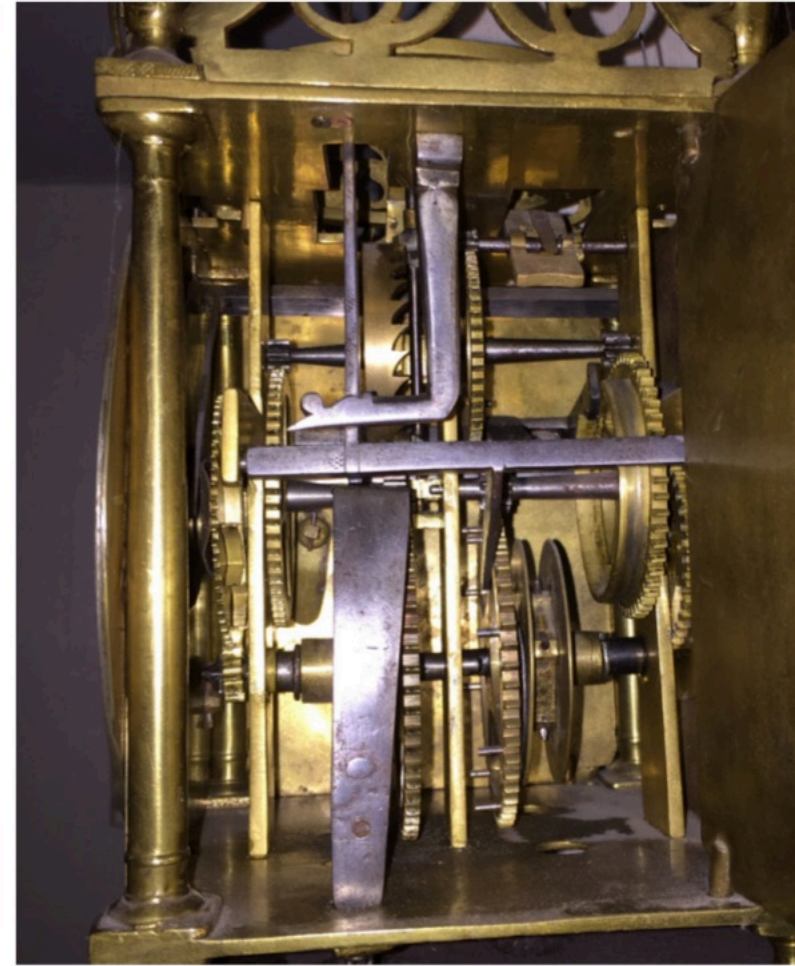
1655/6; April 1650 Henry Smith, free April 1658; May 1653 Faustin Gilbert, free April 1661; May 1655 Edmund Wansell; January 1655/6 Andrew Allam, free June 1664; January 1658/9 John Beale; March 1661/2 Richard Tracy; January 1663/4 Thomas Corderoy, free February 1670/1; took over Thomas Davis on the death of his master, Andrew Allam, free October 1674; September 1668 Isaac Hurst, free April 1677; June 1669 William Arthur, free December 1676. Additionally he bound many apprentices for other masters, much as the Beadle did, but as he was not Beadle, it may be interesting to list them. These included men with whom he obviously had working connections. Five for T. Mills, two each for J. Pennock, J. Benson, F. Munden, P. Closen, three for Jeremy Gregory, and one each for T. Knifiton, R. Scrivener, G. Poole, J. Nash, T. Daniel, D. Le Conte, J. Miller, J. Savill, J. Bayley, W. Elmes.

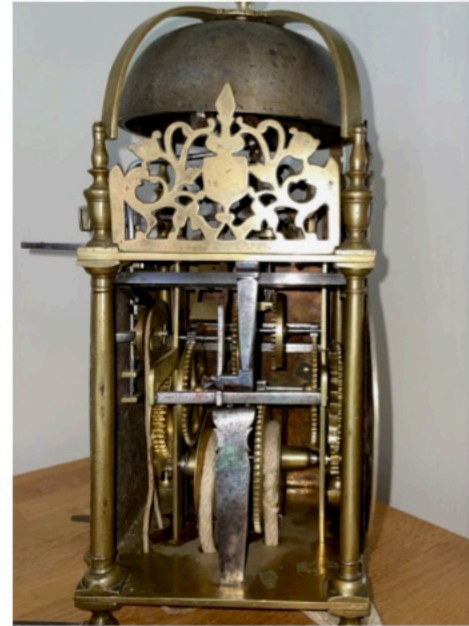
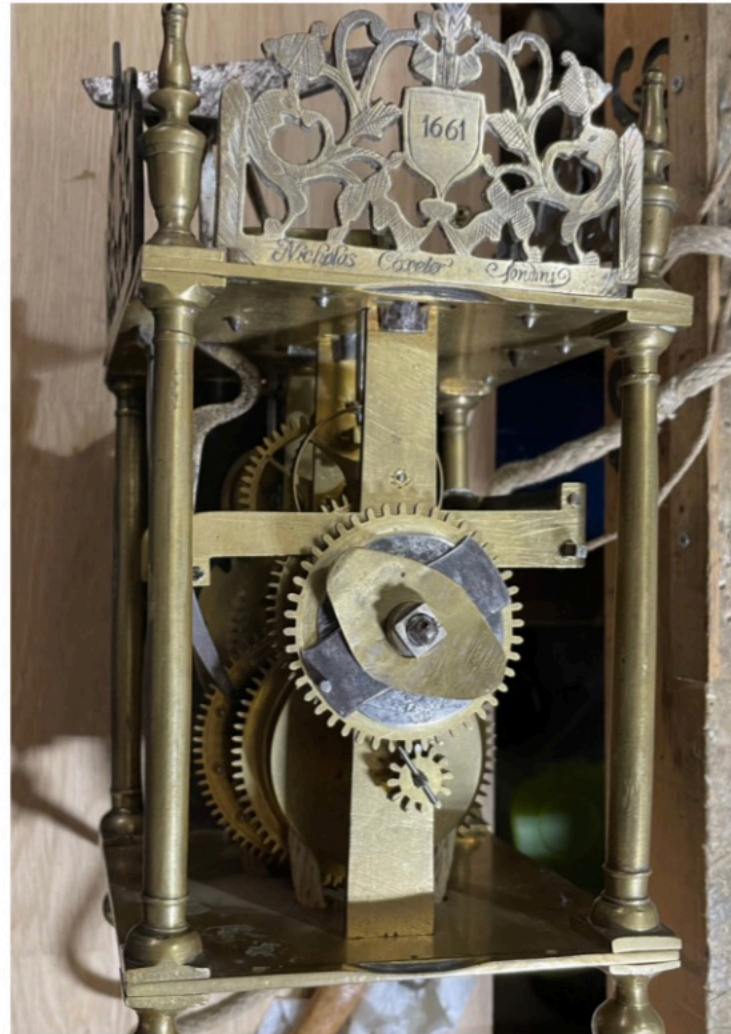
He was married in 1648 to Priscilla Wells at St Andrew's Holborn, where three children were baptised: 1649 Priscilla, 1651 Nicholas, 1652 Mary. In the 1662 and 1666 hearth tax he is recorded at Dolphin Court, off High Holborn in St Martin's le Grand with five hearths. He seems to have worked in his earliest period 'near Goldsmiths' Hall', then in Long Lane, later in Lothbury, but his home may have remained in Holborn. In 1657 he served as a Lieutenant in the Honourable Artillery Company. On 4 August 1659 he attended the House of Commons where his commission as a Lieutenant in the London Trained Bands was confirmed by Parliament. This was on the same occasion as William Clement, Thomas Holland and Walter Hayes had their commissions confirmed. This was in the Yellow Regiment of the Parliamentarian Army, in which he later became a Captain and was often referred to as Captain Coxeter. In 1667 he was left 40s for a gold ring in the will of his 'loving friend' Simon Bartram, *qv*. He was a Company Assistant in 1651, Warden in 1655 and Master of the Company in 1661, 1662, 1671 and 1677, but by 1678 he was ill and could not serve. He made his will in November 1679, proved in February 1679/80, leaving a widow, Priscilla, and a married daughter, Priscilla, wife of Edward Henn, and their children, his grandchildren. He died in November 1679 still in the parish of St Margaret's Lothbury. An inventory of his goods taken in February 1679/80 included 'one weake clock, one ballance clock, an old clock and two clockes not finished, two suites of worke tooles'. In December 1679 his widow gave over the Clockmakers' Company papers which had been in his charge.

He was one of the most prolific lantern-clock makers of the period. Many are recorded signed variously: 'Nicholas Coxeter at ye 3 chaires in Lothbury'; 'Nicholas Coxeter Neer Gould Smiths Hall Londini' (one such dated 1665); 'Nicholas Coxeter of London near Goldsmiths Hall fecit'; 'Nicholas Coxeter in Long Lane Londini'; 'Nicholas Coxeter Londini'; 'Nicholas Coxeter at ye 3 Chaires in Lothbury

Londini fecit'; 'Nicholas Coxeter in Long Lane Londini Fecit'. One or two longcase clocks are known. See my articles in *Clocks* magazine for April 1985, February 1988, June 1988 and *Horological Journal*, August 2002.







ANDREWS, JOHN. London. He was born about 1666 and was apprenticed through the Clockmakers' Company in April 1680 to Nathaniel Pyne, transferred to Samuel Stanton (who oddly enough was not a known clockmaker), and was made free in September 1688.

In September 1695 he was living in the parish of St Bartholomew Exchange with a wife named Elizabeth and daughters Elizabeth, Mary, Hannah, Susannah and Sarah, and his wife's daughter (by a previous marriage) Elizabeth Batt. From this we can deduce he had these daughters by his first wife, whose identity is uncertain. He was married for the second time on 29 September 1694 at St Nicholas, Cole Abbey to Elizabeth Batt, she being the widow of George Batt, whom she had married on 16 July 1682 at St James, Dukes Place and by whom a daughter, Elizabeth, was baptised in 1694 at St Dunstan's, Stepney. In 1697 he signed the oath of allegiance.

He worked in Leadenhall Street till about 1716, perhaps later. He took as apprentices: 1692 Samuel Guy; 1695 Samuel Harris, free 1708; 1698 Joseph Smallwood, transferred to Thomas Payer; 1701 Christopher Parker (son of the late John Parker, Citizen and Clockmaker deceased); 1705 Benjamin Claridge (son of Thomas Claridge of Hanwell, Co Oxon, farmer); 1708 his son, William Andrews, free 1719; 1712 William Baseley; 1716 Joseph Fenn (son of Samuel Fenn of Bedford).

Watches and longcase clocks are known as well as lantern clocks, his work signed as 'John Andrews Londini fecit', 'John Andrews London', 'John Andrews Leadenhall Street, London', 'John Andrews Leadenhall Street' or 'J. Andrews London'.



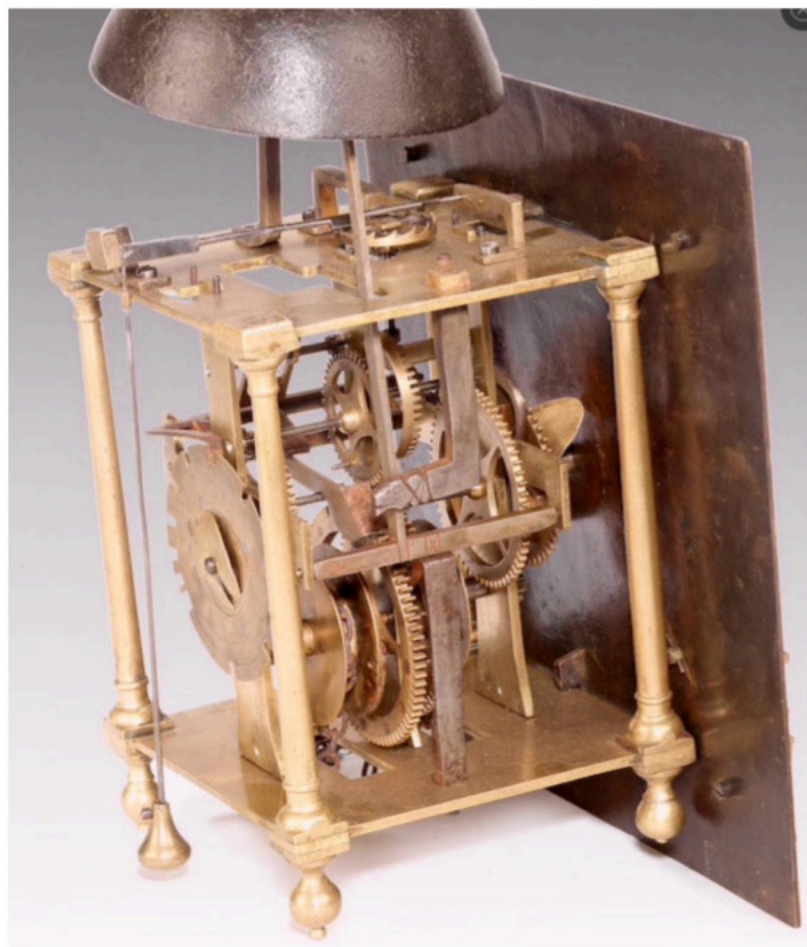
WINDMILLS, JOSEPH. London. He was born about 1648, was made a Free Brother in the Clockmakers' Company in September 1671, by which time he already had a journeyman, whose name is unknown. He took as apprentices: March 1675 John Jackson (passed on to Thomas Taylor of Holborn); April 1680 Samuel Brooks; September 1673 Thomas Bradford through William Speakman, free September 1680; September 1682 Richard Garle through Edward Wilson; August 1686 William Wightman, free

February 1696/7; January 1686/7 his son, Thomas Windmills, free January 1695/6; July 1691 Samuel Bedford; December 1693 Benjamin Smith; September 1695 William Grimes; August 1700 Ralph Sherratt (son of John Sherratt, late of Wem, Shropshire, ironmonger, deceased, his widow, Margaret, 'to buy his clothes').

He worked initially at Blow Bladder Street in St Martin le Grand, then by 1674 at Tower Street, Mark Lane End. In 1697 he signed the Clockmakers' Company oath of allegiance. He worked with his son, Thomas, after about 1696. In 1695 he was at All Hallows parish in Barking with sons Joseph and Thomas and daughters, Elizabeth and Mary. In 1720, when watch-case maker William Jaques died, Windmills paid off an account he owed of £71 3s. He was an Assistant from 1691, Warden from 1699, Master of the Company in 1702, attended till at least 1720 and died in 1724 at All Hallows Barking, his will proved at the Prerogative Court of Canterbury on 21 April 1724. A printed label published by him in 1714 advising how to set up a clock is found in E. L. Edwardes's book *The Grandfather Clock*.

Watches (Fig 260) and all types of clocks are known, including bracket (Fig 258), lantern and longcase clocks, signed variously: 'Joseph Windmills, London', 'Joseph Windmills at Mark Lane End next Tower Street, Londini fecit', 'Joseph Windmills at Mark Lane end next Tower Streete Londini', 'Joseph Windmills in St Martins le Grand Londini fecit', and 'Jo. Windmills in St Martins le Grand Lond fecit'. Later clocks, made with his son, are signed 'J & T. Windmills of London' or simply 'Windmills London'. See J. A. Neale *Joseph and Thomas Windmills Clock and Watch Makers 1671-1737*.





GAMMON, JOHN. London. One of this name, being the son of John Gammon of London, gentleman, was apprenticed in 1691 through the Blacksmiths' Company to Richard Washington, and he himself took apprentices in that Company between 1699 and 1722. In 1695 he was listed as a servant (apprentice?) at Allhallows Staining. He did not sign the 1697 oath of allegiance for any city company.

A watch said to date from the 1670s is known and a lantern clock said to be about 1670 but probably not that early is signed 'John Gammon Londini fecit'. A large lantern clock is signed 'Jno. Gammon Londini Fecit 1703'.



RIMBAULT, PAUL. London. He was a clockmaker in Stepney in 1713, when he took as apprentice Isaac Bodone, son of John Bodone, cordwainer. He and his wife, Anne, had a child named Pierre baptised in 1717 at the French Huguenot Church in Spitalfields.



History excerpts appear courtesy of Brian Loomes, from his publication 'Clockmakers of Britain 1286-1700' (2014).



MARKWICK, JAMES (II). London. He was born in 1662 at Croydon (Surrey), the son of James Markwick (I), and was free in the Clockmakers' Company in April 1692 by patrimony. He married in 1696 at the church of St Mildred Poultry with St Mary Colechurch, London, to Catherine Carleton, and about that date he took over the bulk of his father's business.

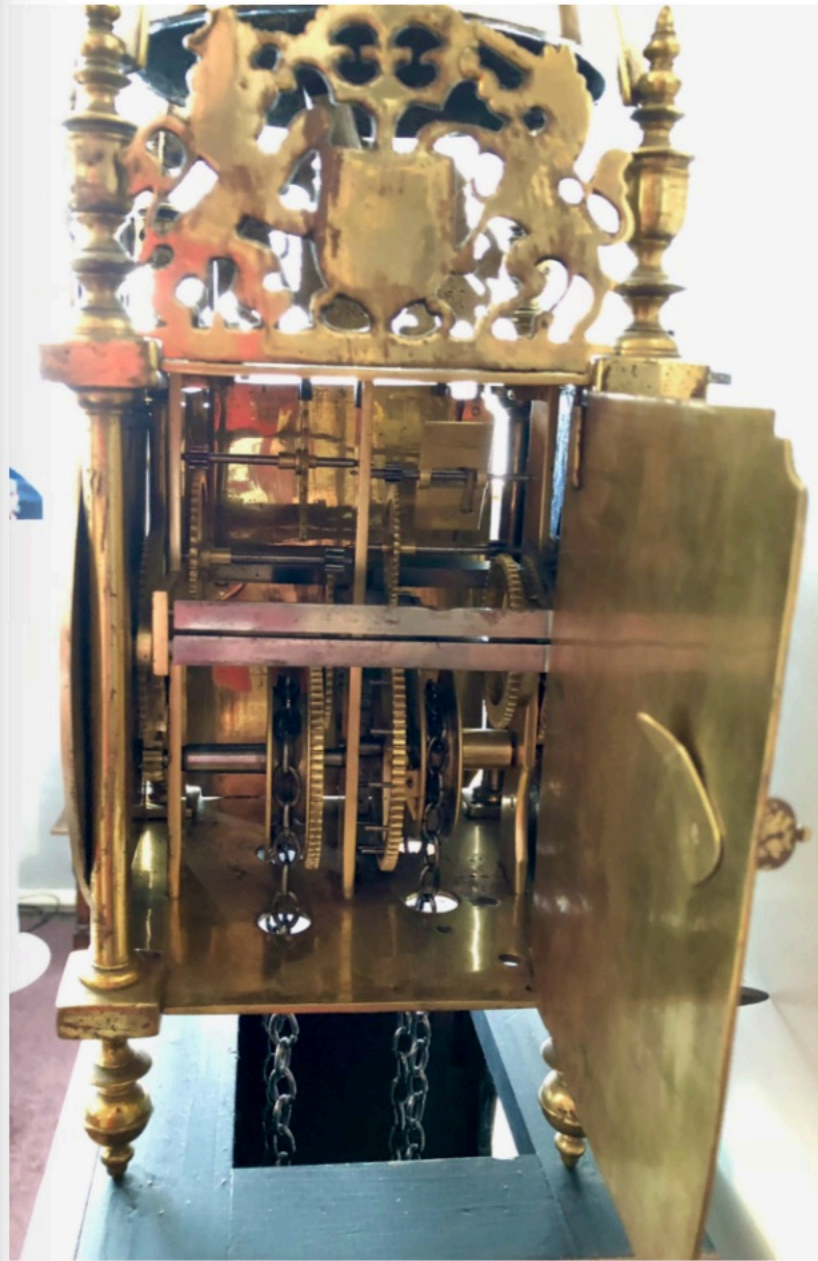
He took as apprentices: Robert Parker (from his father), free July 1698; February 1698/9 John Robinson (son of the late Christopher Robinson, deceased, merchant of Rapahanack River in Virginia). In 1697 he signed the Clockmakers' Company oath of allegiance as James Markwick junior. In 1714 his son Thomas was apprenticed

in the Grocer's Company to Anthony Kingsley, and in 1718 his son Edward was apprenticed in the Fishmongers' Company to Edward Bellamy.

He was made Assistant in 1716, Warden in 1717, Master in 1720. He died in 1730 leaving a will. He became a partner about 1710-15 with Robert Markham, his son-in-law, to whom he gave £1,000 on his marriage to his daughter, Catherine. After that their clocks were signed 'Markwick Markham', or sometimes 'Markwick and Markham'. Watches and longcase clocks are known. See my article in *Clocks* magazine, August 2007.



WEBB, EDWARD. Chew Stoke (Somerset). He was working by 1667. He was buried there on 1 October 1694, his wife, Anne, the same year. Their children included Edward, Walter, John, James, Richard, George many of whom also became clockmakers. Longcase and lantern clocks are known, mostly dated, signed variously 'Edward Webb of Chew Stoke', 'Edward Webb of Chewstoake fecit', 'Edward Webb Chewstoke fecit', 'Edward Webbe in Church Stoke 1676', 'Edward Webb Chew Stoke fecit 1678', 'Edward Webb of Chewstoke Fecit' dated 1677, 1681, 1684 and 1682 (the latter being one of only two known 8-day lantern clocks, Fig 254, the other being unsigned but attributed to him), 'Edward Webb of Chew Stoke Fecit 1692', and 'Edward Webb of Char Stoke Fecit 1693'. See also Matthew Webb.



BAYLEY, JEFFREY. London. He was born about 1623 and was apprenticed from September 1637 to 1644 through Oswald Durant in the Clockmakers' Company to Thomas Pace 'at ye Crown', with whom he twice had a dispute (in 1642 and 1644) serious enough for the Company to become involved, though mysteriously neither man would reveal details. He was made free in March 1646/7, and possibly succeeded Christopher Vernon, *qv*, about 1647. He may have succeeded his late master, Thomas Pace, at the Royal Exchange. On 6 October 1647 he married Desabella or Dulcibella Chesterman at St Bartholomew the Less, High Holborn. She was born in 1626, daughter of John Chesterman, gentleman, of Lambourn, Berkshire, who died in 1665, leaving bequests to his daughter, Dulcibella Bayley and his grandchildren Elizabeth, Grace and Catherine Bayley. In 1662 he worked in Westminster. In 1666 he was recorded in the Hearth Tax for St Giles in the Fields as having eight hearths. In 1673 he received a bequest of forty shillings in the will of Robert Tyrell of St Martins in the Fields. He



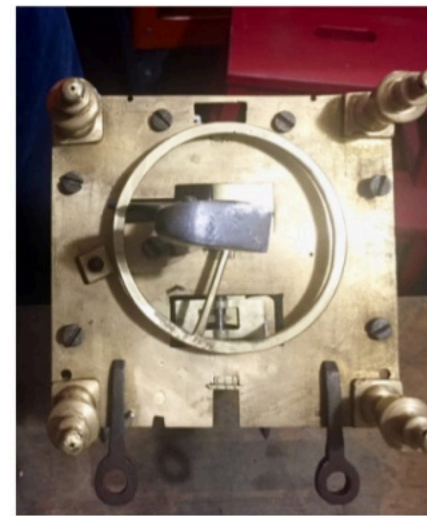
was an Assistant in the Company in 1665, Warden from 1670, Master in 1676. He is believed to have died about 1696, certainly before 1697/8. In 1698 a watch by him was raffled by Andrew Brown of Edinburgh. Jeffrey Bayley, 'a goldsmith', died in 1698, which was probably him.

He took as apprentices through the Company: March 1653/4 Daniel Stephens, free April 1661; August 1654 William Smith; April 1657 John Wheatley, free May 1668; 1661 William Standish, free January 1668/9; 1664 took Thomas Applegarth over from Hugh Cooper on the latter's death, free July 1674; February 1668/9 Edward Lee; July 1670 Edmund Appley, free January 1677/8; November 1672 Richard Ansell, free July 1680; after 1674 took over Joseph Page from Nicholas Coxeter, probably when Coxeter died in 1679, free April 1683; September 1680 Sebastian Porter; July 1683 Edward Drew, free July 1692; June 1687 Samuel Lee, free March 1694/5. He also bound eleven other apprentices for other masters.

Several lantern clocks are known, one signed 'Galfridus Bayley Londini fecit', others 'Jeffrey Bayley at the Turne Stile in Holburne Londini fecit', 'Jeffrey Bayley nere turne stile in hyc Holborne', or 'nere Turn Stile in holborn', 'at ye turn stile in Holborn', 'at ye Turn-Stile in Holborn fecit', 'at the Turn Stile in Holburn Londini fecit'. See my article in *Clocks* magazine, October 2005.



BAYLEY, EDWARD. London. He was a freeman of the Goldsmiths' Company and seems not to have been a member of the Clockmakers' Company, though one record suggests an Edward Bailey was free of the Clockmakers' Company in 1658. Nevertheless his apprentice, George Crouch, was passed over to William Raynes and was made free in the Clockmakers' Company in 1669. Watches are known by him. A lantern clock is known signed 'Edward Bayley London', another 'Ed. Bayley Londini'.



LOOMES, THOMAS. London. He was born about 1628 or earlier and was journeyman to John Selwood, and made a free Brother in the Clockmakers' Company on 14 January 1649/50. He was described in the Court Minutes as the former apprentice (but former servant in the rough books) and the fact that he entered as a Brother may imply he was apprenticed through some different company. In 1648 he was an Overseer of the will of his 'friend' Sampson Shelton, *gr*, and it might be the two were related or it may be they both came from adjacent villages in Leicestershire. He succeeded to the Mermaid in Lothbury, 'near Bartholomew Lane End' in St Margaret's Lothbury parish, when William Selwood, the last of the two Selwood brothers, died in 1653.

He was married on 18 July 1654 at St Saviour's Southwark to Mary (born 1634), the daughter of Ahasuerus Fromanteel, with whom he was closely allied politically in support of Oliver Cromwell, and for which latter support he was at one time imprisoned. On 22 April 1655 a daughter named Mary was baptised at St Margaret's Lothbury. In January 1655/6 he was one of several who stood surety for Ahasuerus Fromanteel in his application for freedom of the City. He rebelled against the Clockmakers' Company administration in the 1656 protest.

He took as apprentices: January 1651/2 Richard Beck, freed May 1653, and Simon Dutson (both from the late John Selwood), free 1654; November 1653 Thomas Wilmot; November 1654 John Ramsden and John Garbound; John James (from Nicholas Tomlins), free February 1661; May 1656 Thomas Bagley, free October 1664; April 1661 Daniel Worlidge; John Fromanteel, free July 1663; October 1663 John White, later transferred to Thomas Bagley; September 1664 Samuel Revell; Edward Sedwell, free October 1664; 1660s William Warden. He also bound an apprentice for Edward Ward. He was frequently fined by the Company for the unapproved taking of apprentices.

He served as a Lieutenant in the Parliamentary Army, probably in the White Regiment of the London Trained Bands, and was closely connected with several senior army officers who were also ardent Baptist preachers. In February 1659/60 he was arrested with several senior Parliamentary officers being suspected of hoarding weapons, but was later released and his weapons returned to him. In 1662 he was again arrested and released on bond of £1,000 to be of good behaviour for having sheltered former Parliamentary officers who were fugitives. In 1662 he put up a bond for his apprentice, Thomas Bagley's, release from custody at Surrey Quarter Sessions when Bagley was suspected of being a Quaker.

In 1662 he was taxed on his premises in Lothbury for five hearths, just eight doors away from John Pennock. He served as a Clockmakers' Company Steward in 1663. He is believed to have died of the plague in late 1664 or 1665, last paying rates of 2d a week on his premises in 1664. His widow, Mary, lived till 1717, she being buried on 2 January 1716/17 at St Mary's Whitechapel, being 'a widow from Bethnal Green'. In 1694 Abraham Fromanteel, one of the original subscribers when the Bank of England was founded, deposited a sum of £300 on her behalf.

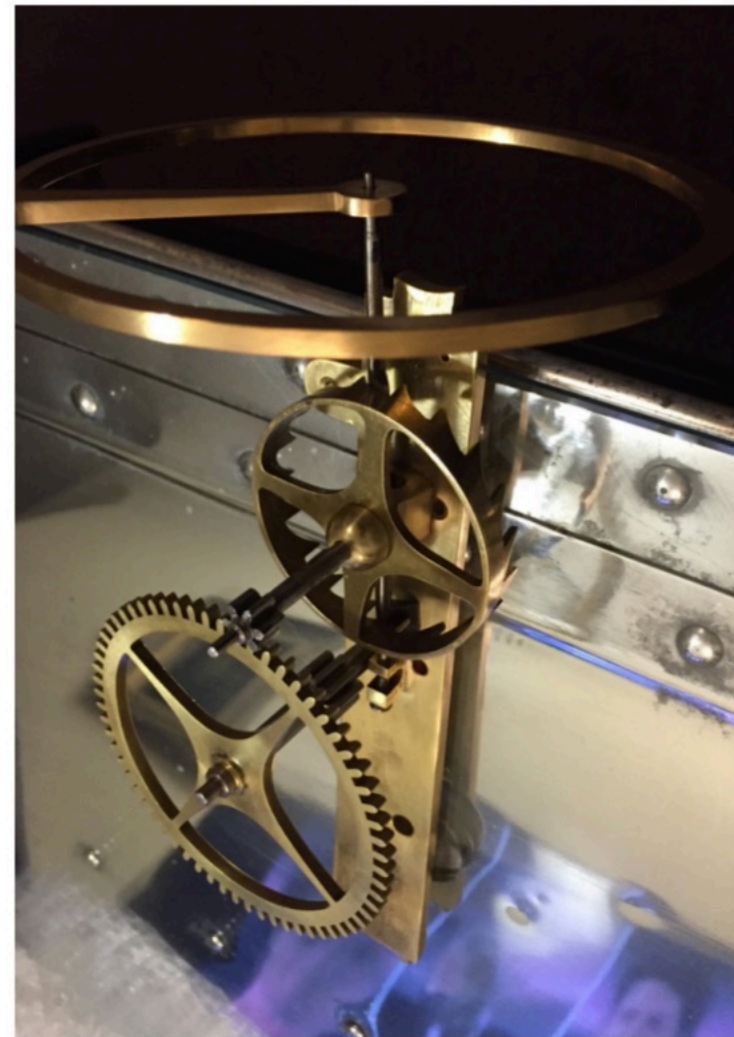
One bracket clock and many lantern clocks are known mostly signed 'at ye mermaid in Lothbury' (Fig 166). Two clocks have Loomes rather than the usual Loomes. Signatures include: 'Thomas Loomes at ye Mermaid in Lothbury fecit', 'Thomas Loomes At The Mermaid In Lothbury' and 'Thomas Loomes Londini'. See my articles in *Clocks* magazine December 1979, July 2003, and May, June and July 2014. See also my books *Complete British Clocks and Country Clocks & their London Origins*.



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COSBEY, ROBERT. London. He was born about 1632 and was apprenticed in May 1646 through the Clockmakers' Company to Peter Closon (through Thomas Alcock) till 1653 and was made free in January 1655 (as a Free Brother?). He took as apprentices: September 1655 Charles Fox (through John Pennock), free October 1662; September 1670 George Brooke, free September 1681; April 1676 John Peers; November 1681 James Jackson (later transferred to Samuel Clyatt, perhaps after Cosby's death, and was made free in September 1689). He also took an apprentice in August 1685 for John Wheeler. In the Hearth Tax for 1666 one of this name is listed as having two hearths at Cock Hill in Stepney. In 1672 he was fined for refusing to be a Clockmakers' Company Steward.

He became a Company Assistant in 1674. By September 1685 he had been overlooked for the position of Warden, but in any event he did not wish to be and in fact never attended again after 1685, after which he is not documented again. He did not sign the 1697 oath of allegiance for the Clockmakers' or any other Company. Several lantern clocks are known signed variously: 'Robert Cosby at ye Dyal in Roode Lane London', 'Robert Cosby at the fyall in Rood Lane, London', 'Robert Cosby in Mark lane fecit', 'Robert Cosby Neere Rattclife cross'.



A fine early lantern clock made about 1660 by Robert Cosby of 'the Dyal in Rood Lane', London, having (re-converted) balance wheel control. He was born about 1632, was apprenticed in 1646 to the celebrated Peter Closon and ended his training in 1655. He died about 1685. Cleaned and serviced.



PARKER, THOMAS. London. He was apprenticed in November 1658 to William Almond through David Moody and was made free in April 1669. He took as apprentices: July 1669 Andrew Savery, free September 1676; May 1676 John Marsh; June 1684 Caesar White. In 1674 he was believed to be still working for Almond and was last mentioned in 1684. A Vicar General marriage licence dated July 10 1676 exists for

Thomas Parker, of St John Zachary, London, Clockmaker, Bachelor, about 31, & Anne Fox, of St Leonard, Shoreditch, Middlesex, Spinster, about 20, with consent of her mother; at St Leonard, Shoreditch.

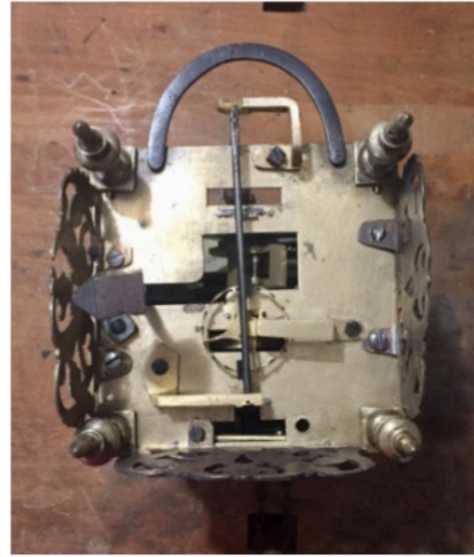
Lantern clocks are known, signed 'Thomas Parker in Ann's Lane neare Aldersgate' (or St Anne's Lane), 'Thomas Parker, Crutched Friars, London', and 'Tho. Parker Londini fecit'.



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KNIBB, JOHN. Oxford/Hanslope (Buckinghamshire). He was born in 1650 in Claydon, Buckinghamshire, brother of Joseph Knibb, for whom he worked at Oxford from about 1664. He was freed there in 1673 and continued to trade there after Joseph had moved to London till he died in 1722. He had as apprentices: 1673 Samuel Aldworth; 1675 William Hitchcock; 1679 Thomas Lidbrook; 1681 Mathias Unite; 1682 John Ford; 1686

John Goweth; 1696 John Free; 1698 Thomas Gillett; 1706 George Wentworth; about 1710 Humphrey Brickland.

In later years he lived at Hanslope. He was a prolific maker of all types of clocks, usually signed at Oxford, but one is recorded signed at Hanslope and one signed at London. He usually signed 'John Knibb Oxon', 'John Knibb Oxon fecit' (Figs 146-147), 'Johannes Knibb Oxon' or 'Johannes Knibb Oxoniensis Fecit' (Figs 148-149) and one 'Johannes Knibb Oxon fecit 1669'. A striking hooded clock has been noted signed 'John Knibb Oxon fecit'.





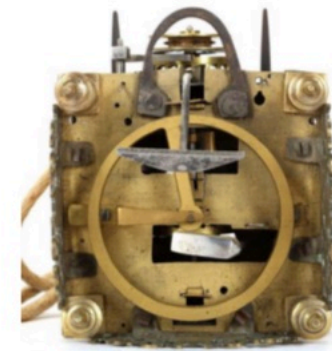
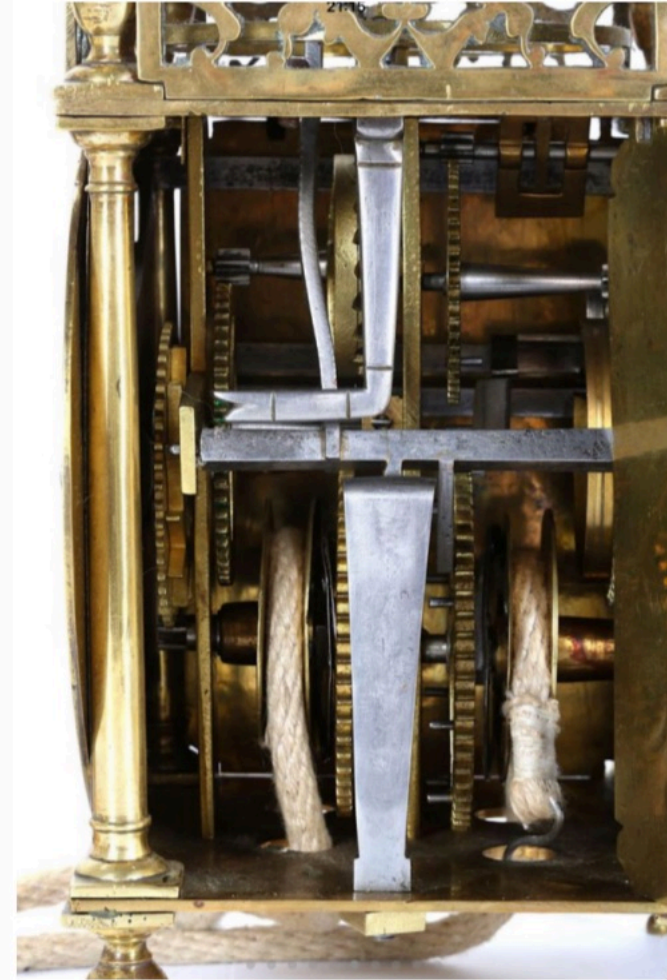
SELWOOD, WILLIAM. London. He was born in 1607 at Eaton in the parish of Appleton with Eaton, near Abingdon, Berkshire, the son of Richard Selwood, yeoman, and brother of John Selwood. He was apprenticed in 1624 to Henry Stevens in the Clothworkers' Company, and was freed in 1632. In November 1632 he took as apprentices through the Clothworkers' Company Henry Ireland (freed 1640) and Thomas Knifton (freed 1640). In 1633 he became a free Brother in the Clockmakers' Company.

He took as apprentices in the Clockmakers' Company: May 1640 Tobias Davis through Thomas Alcock, free May 1653; February 1640/1 Samuel Davis through Richard Masterson, free February 1647; February 1647/8 William Clark through Samuel Davis, free November 1654; April 1650 Edward Norris (Knifton's brother-in-law) through Samuel Davis, free January 1658. He probably had other

apprentices too as he was repeatedly warned to observe the Clockmakers' Company rules about binding them.

He worked at the Mermaid in Lothbury, in the parish of St Margaret's Lothbury, where he died in 1653, being succeeded by Thomas Loomes. His will was written and proved in the Prerogative Court of Canterbury in April 1653 and suggests he was a bachelor. He left most to his brother, Bartholomew Selwood, including property in Grantham Lane in Thames Street. His mother, Anne, was still alive. At the time of his death he had in his employ 'three men servants' Toby Davis, William Clarke and Edward Norris. He made bequests to Thomas Smyth, engraver, and to the eldest daughter of Henry Ireland, *qv*.

Lantern clocks are known, signed 'at ye maremade in Lothbury' in various spellings such as: 'William Sellwood at ye maremayd in Lothbury', 'William Sellwood at ye mermayde in Lothbury' (Fig 220), 'William Selwood at ye Maremaid in Louthbury fecit', 'William Selwood at ye marmade in Lothbury', 'William Selwood at the Mearmaid in Lowthborough fecit', and 'William Selwood at Mermaid in Lothbur'. See my articles in *Clocks* magazine, December 1979, June and July 2004, and May, June and July 2014.



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NORRIS, EDWARD (I). London. It is believed he was born at Abingdon (Berkshire) about 1637, and was apprenticed in April 1650 through the Clockmakers' Company through Samuel Davis to William Selwood, who

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died in 1653 and left him a bequest of £6. He was made free in January 1658/9.

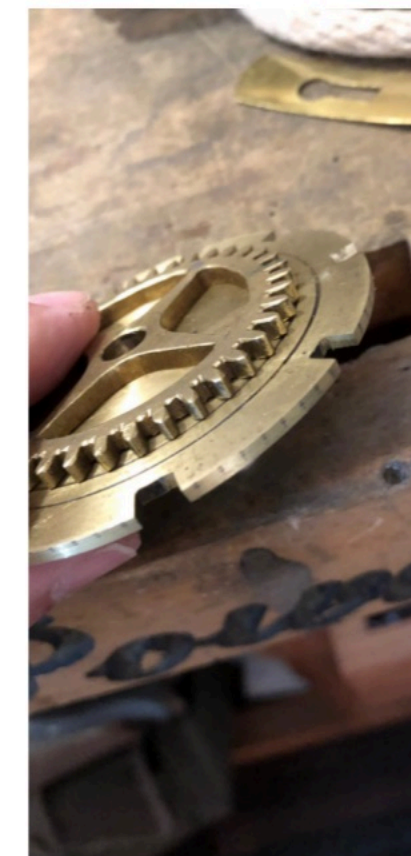
He took as apprentices through the Clockmakers' Company: April 1661 John Sutton; May 1661 Nathaniel Worlidge; November 1661 Joseph Norris (his brother), free September 1670; December 1664 Samuel Ayres; January 1669/70 Henry Aske, free January 1676/7; May 1675 Richard Farmer, later transferred to Richard Browne; Richard Browne, free January 1675/6; John Martin (from Joseph Norris), free September 1679; October 1682 Charles Vans; April 1683 his son, Charles Norris, free July 1687; June 1684 Joseph Hall; July 1694 his son, Edward Norris (II), free November 1702, and later became a clockmaker at Hampstead till his death in 1740; March 1698/9 John Everill (son of John Everill, deceased, late grocer of Stilton, Huntingdonshire). In 1681 his son, Daniel, was apprenticed in the Goldsmiths' Company to Benjamin Rhodes.

In September 1680 he and his wife, Sarah, took Elizabeth Meeberry as apprentice, probably as a servant. He also bound several other apprentices for other masters in the manner of the Beadle, these masters being: P. Corderoy, G. Mертins, D. Roofe, J. Benson, T. Fletcher, W. Warner, W. Grimes. In 1666 he and his wife and two sons, Edward and Charles, were mentioned in the will of Thomas Knifton, being left 25s for a mourning ring. He was Knifton's son-in-law, husband of his daughter, Sarah, whom he may have married as a widow (Sarah Wallis, in 1657 at St Paul's church Covent Garden).

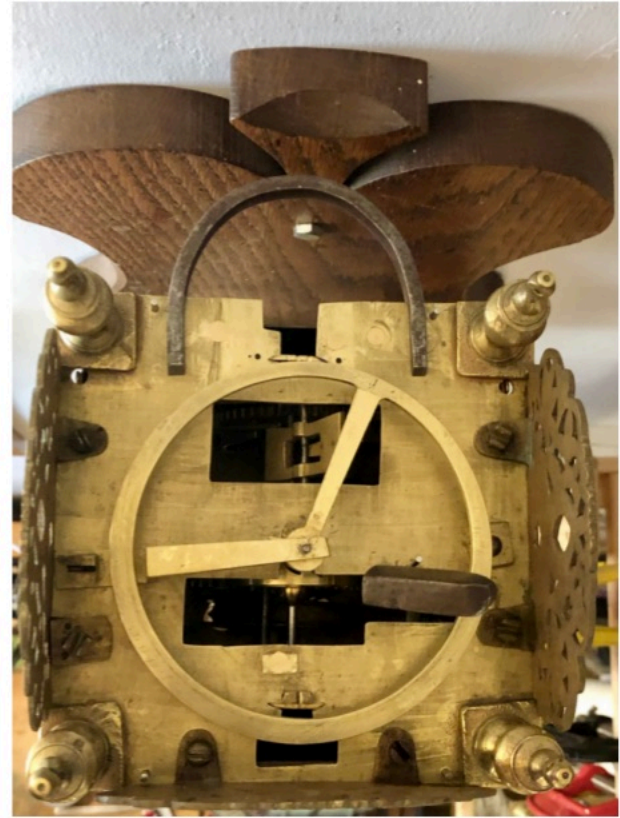
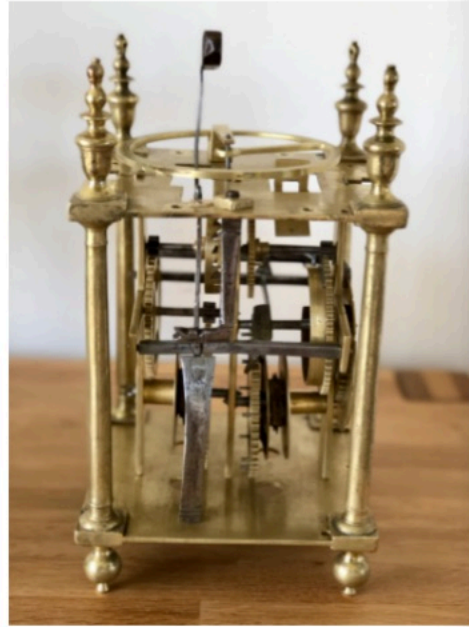
In September 1675 he lived at the White House in Bartholomew Lane, near Lothbury. Another source suggests he lived at one time in Dove Court. He was an Assistant from 1674, Warden from 1683 and Master of the Clockmakers' Company in 1687, signed the Clockmakers' Company oath of allegiance in 1697, while he last attended in 1707, when he probably died. Lantern clocks are known signed: 'Edward Norris at the ⚙ in Cateaton Streete fecit', 'Edward Norris at the ⚙ in Bethlem fecit' (Fig 194) one dated 1685, and 'Edwd. Norris'.



History excerpts appear courtesy of Brian Loomes, from his publication 'Clockmakers of Britain 1286-1700' (2014).



This clock was restored after which a balance escapement was reinstated in 2018 for Brian Loomes

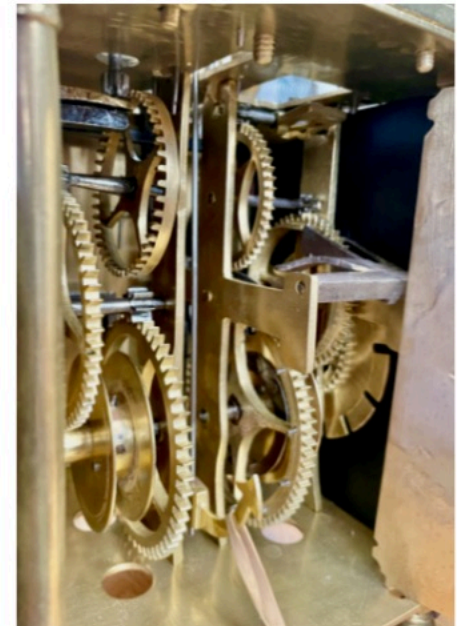
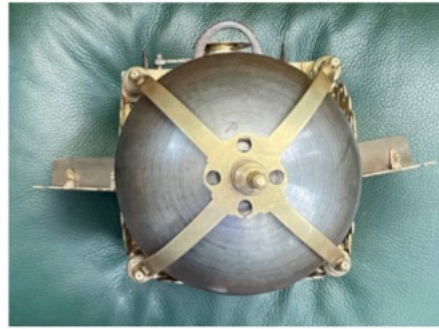


EBSWORTH, JOHN. London. He was born about 1643 and apprenticed through the Clockmakers' Company in February 1657 to Richard Ames and freed in April 1665. He took as apprentices: July 1667 Bryan Lake, free October 1674; July 1672 William Sharpe, free July 1681; June 1675 John Barnett, free September 1682; August 1684 John Berry, free April 1692; December 1684 Jonathan Woodford; July 1696 Joseph Hutchin, free August 1703. Additionally he bound an apprentice for Nathaniel Bird.

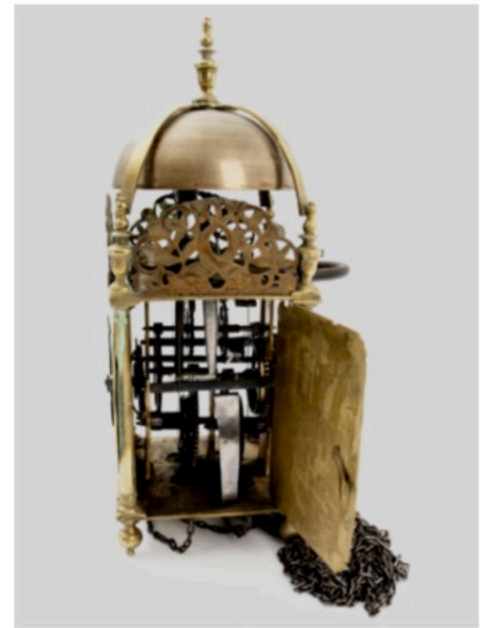
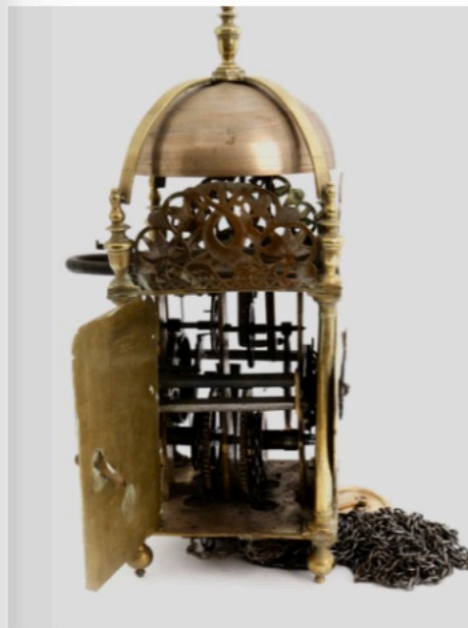
In May 1674 two faulty sundials were confiscated from his 'shop in Lothbury'. He worked at the Cross Keys in Lothbury but later at 'New Cheep Side' (but see also Thomas Knifton who worked at the Cross Keys in Lothbury earlier — maybe Ebsworth succeeded him there). He was a Clockmakers' Company Assistant from 1682, Warden 1694-6, Master 1697. In 1694 he was one of the original subscribers when the Bank of England was founded, depositing £1,000. In 1695 he lived in the parish of St Margaret's Lothbury with his daughter, Susanna. In 1697 he did not sign the Clockmakers' Company oath of allegiance, suggesting he was a nonconformist.

Very few facts seem to have emerged about his family life and it is very likely he was some kind of a nonconformist. He was buried in August 1699 at St Margaret's Lothbury. His will, dated May 1699, proved on 21 September 1699 in the Prerogative Court of Canterbury, appointed Edward Stanton (*qv*) as overseer. Though there is no apparent business connection between them, it is very likely that Stanton too was a nonconformist. He mentions his wife, Susanna, and one Thomas Walker who may be the clockmaker of that name. Strangely he seems not to be mentioned in London between 1684 and 1696, during which period a John Ebsworth with wife named Susanna, had children baptised in Cirencester, Gloucestershire (1686/7 Susanna, 1693 Francis), but this may simply be coincidence as it was a name common in that locality.

He was a very prolific maker of lantern clocks, variously signed 'John Ebsworth at ye ☿ in Lothbury Londini fecit' (Fig 97), 'John Ebsworth in Lothbury Londini fecit', 'John Ebsworth London', 'John Ebsworth in New Cheape Side fecit', 'John Ebsworth in New Cheep Side Londini fecit', 'John Ebsworth in New Cheapside Londini fecit', 'John Ebsworth Londini fecit', 'John Ebsworth in Long Lane Lothbury'. Several bracket clocks and longcase clocks are also known, including month-duration examples of the latter, signed 'John Ebsworth Londini fecit' (Fig 98) and 'John Ebsworth London' (Fig 99). Watches are recorded signed 'John Ebsworth London'.





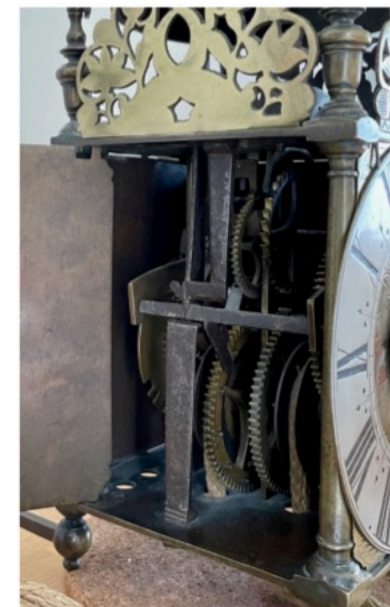


LOWNDES, JONATHAN. London. He was born about 1656, perhaps baptised 18 October 1657 at Knutsford, Cheshire, the son of William Lowndes of Knutsford and Mobberley, and is believed to be a cousin of John Lowndes of Marthall. He took out a licence to marry in September 1679, being a watchmaker and a bachelor aged 23 of the parish of St Martin in the Fields, to Grace Allen of St Giles in the Fields, a spinster aged 22, and they were married on 18 September 1679 at Carshalton, Surrey. Grace was probably the daughter of Herbert and Katherine Allen, born in 1657 in St Helen's Bishopsgate parish.

He was summoned to court in June 1680 by the Clockmakers' Company (presumably for non-membership) and was made a free Brother in the Clockmakers' Company in July 1680. In June 1682 a daughter, Mary, was baptised at St Martin in the Fields, and in January 1683/4 a son, William, was baptised there to Jonathan and Grace. In 1683 he worked at The Dial in Pall Mall. He then seems to have moved, as did his brother, Charles, between 1684 and 1686 to the parish of St James Westminster (to the Pall Mall premises, which he ran with his brothers Charles, Samuel and Isaac?), where on 30 August 1688 a daughter, Elizabeth, was baptised, then on 30 December 1689 a daughter Grace, then 28 March 1691 a second daughter named Mary.

He took as apprentices through the Company: July 1688 Anthony Pluett (through Daniel Stevens), free January 1697/8; September 1693 Thomas Smith (through Henry Aske). In 1697 he signed the oath of allegiance. He was working till at least 1702, perhaps till 1710. By 1714 Thomas Smith worked for Jonathan's cousin, John Lowndes, who then on account of illness was living in Marthall, Cheshire, but who owned a London shop run by Smith, all of which may imply that Jonathan had died and John had taken over the Pall Mall premises.

He made full size, miniature (Fig 168) and square-dial lantern clocks, bracket (Fig 169) and longcase clocks and watches, signed variously 'Jonathan Lowndes London', 'Jonathan Lowndes in Pall Mall London', 'Jonat. Lowndes London', 'Jonathon Lowndes Londini', 'Jonathan Lowndes Att The Dyal in The Pall Mall London', 'Jonathan Lowndes Pall Mall', 'Jonathan Lowndes at the Dial in Pall Mall', 'Jonathan Lowndes in Pall Mall, London', 'Jonathan Lounds Londini fecit', and 'Jonatt. Lowndes, London'.

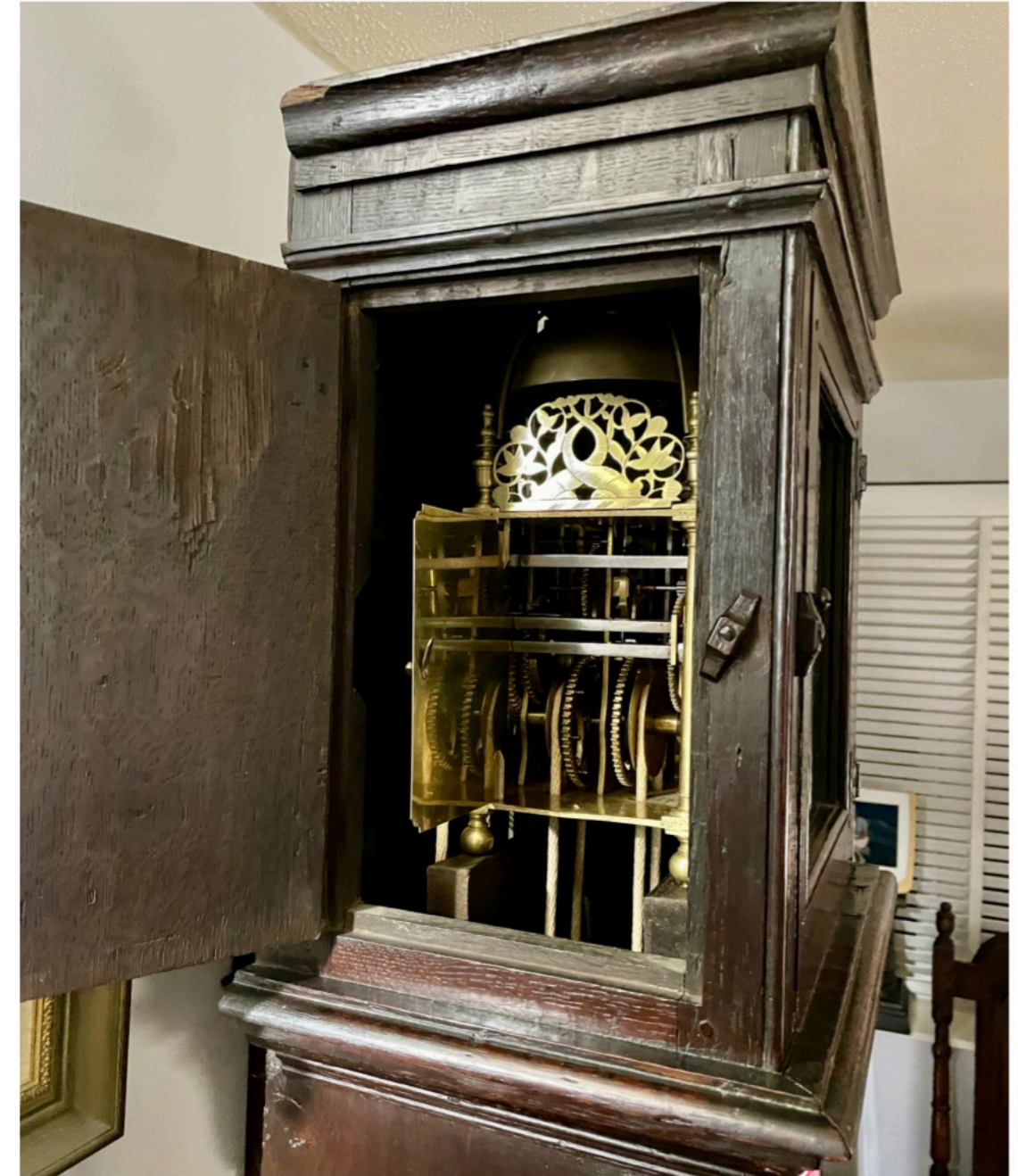
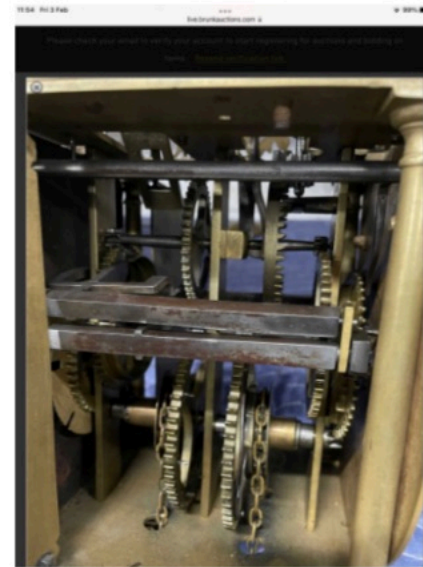


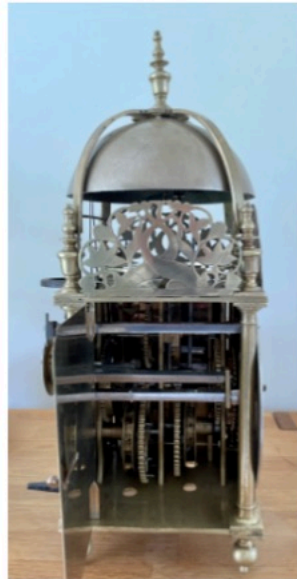
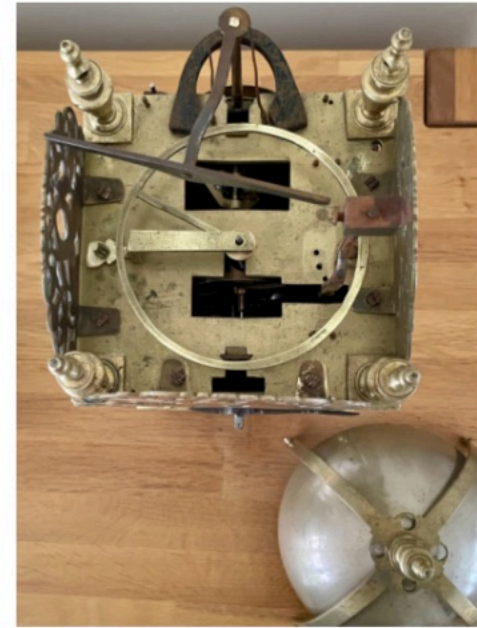
CLOSON, PETER. London. He was born about 1595 and was apprenticed on 22 November 1608 to Henry Stevens for eight years in the Clothworkers' Company,

sons of Godfrey Closon, himself a gunmaker in Whitechapel, who also had property in Southwark and left shares to each son. Peter Closon was married on 25 June 1629 at St Mary Mounthaw, London, to Margaret Buckner. He subscribed £5 in 1630 to the formation of the Clockmakers' Company, a very large sum exceeded by only two other subscribers — Henry Archer and William Pettit. He took as apprentices in the Clothworkers' Company: August 1619 James Walker, son of Roger Walker of Skenfrith, Monmouthshire, carpenter, freed 1627; July 1619 Sebastian Carter, son of Richard Carter, mercer of Kingston on Thames, freed 1627; October 1629 John Buckner, son of Philip Buckner of Whitley, Berkshire, deceased, freed 1637; April 1630 John Selwood, son of Richard Selwood (in error described as Thomas Selwood) of Eaton, Berkshire, free 1638; 1631 John Baldwin, son of Thomas Baldwin of Faversham, Kent; 1632 George Crooke, son of Roger Crooke, yeoman, of Hammersmith, Middlesex; 1632 Humphry Mills, son of Thomas Mills, Citizen and Saddler, deceased, freed 1640 (erroneously to Robert Closon). He was made an Assistant in the Clockmakers' Company in 1633, then Warden 1637/8, when he ceased to attend.

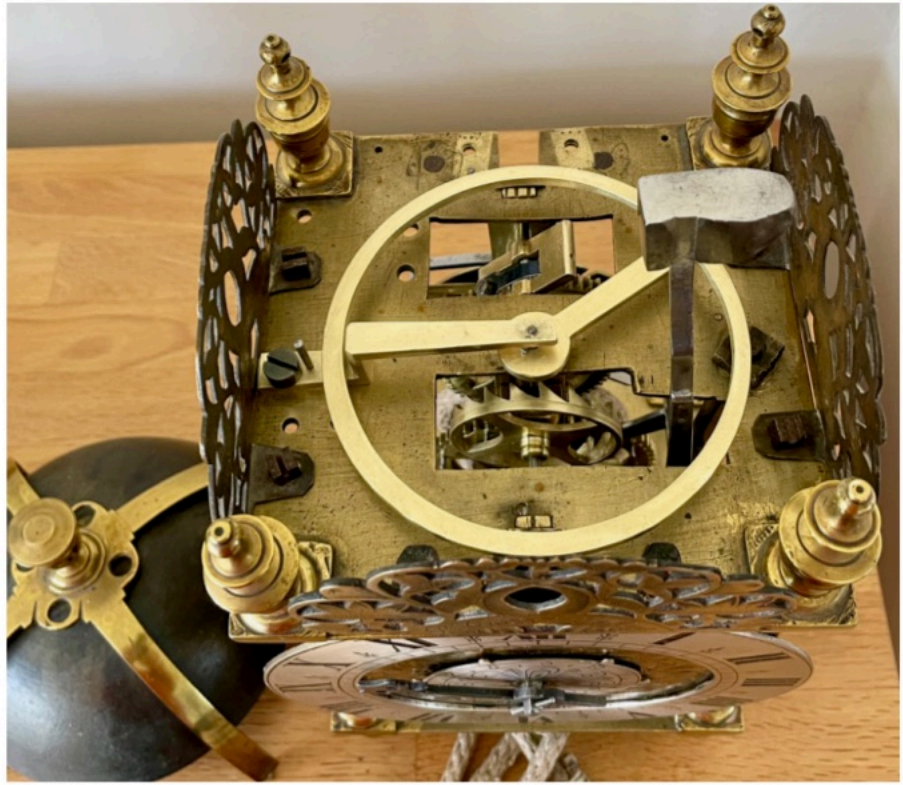
From 1638 he took many apprentices through the Clockmakers' Company, though he seems never to have actually joined. He took as apprentices: July 1638 John Wise (through Thomas Dawson), free October 1646; May 1639 Nicholas Tomlins (through Oswald Durant), free October 1646; May 1646 Robert Cosby (through Thomas Alcock), free January 1653; June 1646 Hugh Cooper (through Thomas Alcock), free June 1653; February 1648/9 Richard Ames (through Richard Masterson), free January 1656/7; August 1654 William Speakman (through Nicholas Tomlins), free September 1661; William Fenkman, free September 1661; May 1660 Philip Buckner (through Nicholas Coxeter), being the nephew of his wife, free January 1667/8; September 1657 Humphrey Clark (through Nicholas Coxeter later passed to Robert Robinson).

He worked near Holborn Bridge. My last note of him in the Company records was in 1660, and he is believed to have died in that year or early in 1661. He was certainly dead before 1662/3. He may have been succeeded by Richard Ames, his former apprentice. Many lantern clocks are known by him (Figs 60-61 and 62), including a two-handed three-train quarter-striking clock and one with a centre verge pendulum. He signed 'Peter Closon nere Hoburn Bridge fecit', 'Peter Closon Londini fecit' and 'Peter Closon Neare Holburne Bridge, Londini fecit', also supposedly 'Peter Closon at Holborne Bridge' and 'Peter Closon at London fecit'. See my article in *Clocks*





QUELCH, RICHARD (I). Oxford. Beeson records that he was born about 1594, (maybe baptised in 1597 at Hurley, Oxfordshire, son of Richard Quelch) in Wallingford, Berkshire, the son of Richard Quelch. He was apprenticed in August 1608 to Triumph de St Paule of Oxford, where he was freed in September 1616. He took as apprentice in 1650 Martin Quelch (passed on Richard's death to Richard (II), ie September 1652). He was succeeded by his sons John, Martin and Richard. He died in the autumn of 1652. See my article in *Clocks* magazine, October 2010.



History excerpts appear courtesy of Brian Loomes, from his publication 'Clockmakers of Britain 1286-1700' (2014).



This clock was first restored (anchor escapement), after which reinstated with balance escapement like it originally had (2021)

Figure 4. Founders mark



Figure 5. Awaiting phase 2 restoration,

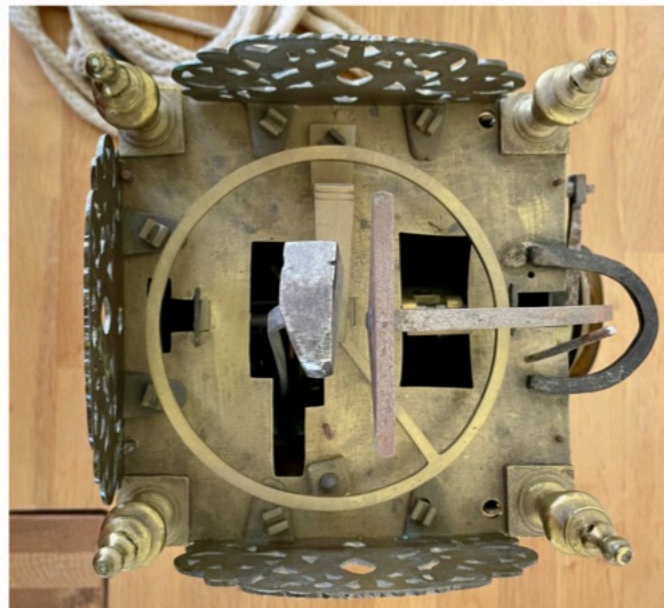
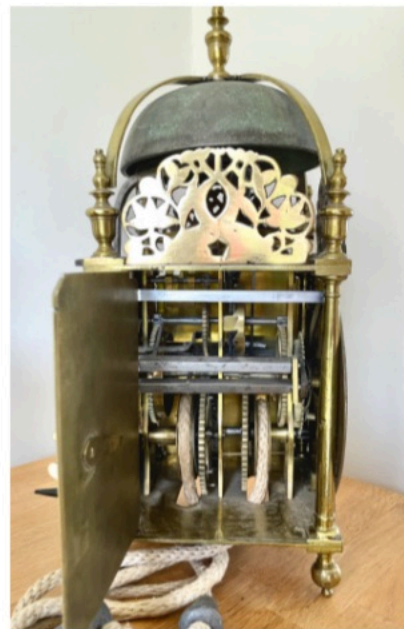
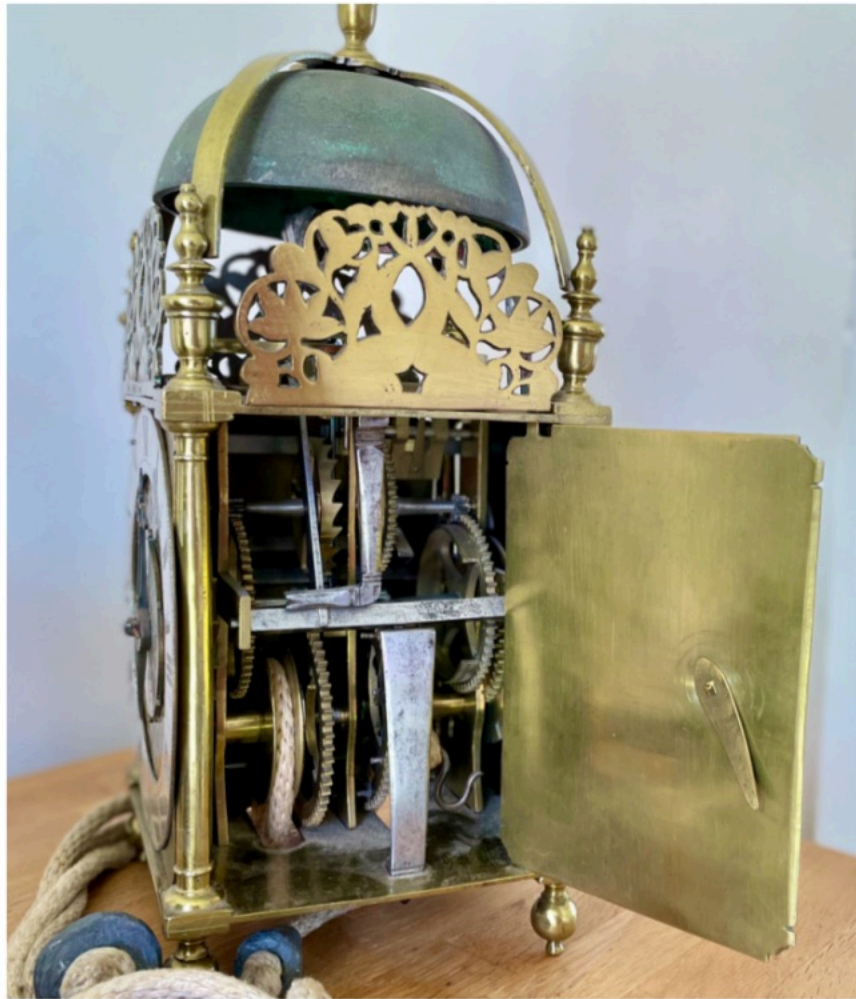


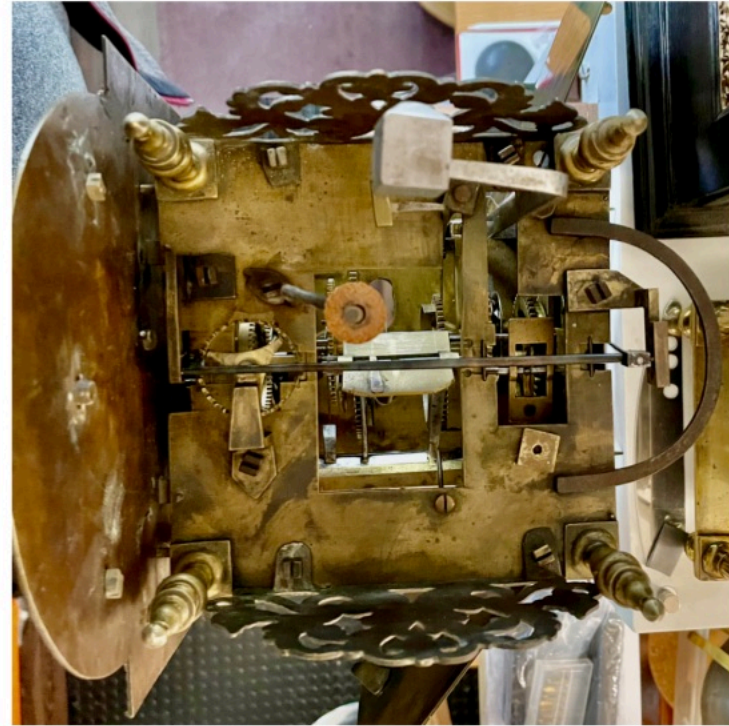
QUELCH, JOHN. Oxford. He was born about 1640. Beeson records him as the son of Richard Quelch senior, apprenticed in November 1652, immediately after his father's death, to his brother, Richard (II), in Oxford and free in September 1663, implying he worked for the first two years for his brother. He lived in All Saints parish, where Beeson records the baptism of several children between 1668 and 1677. He took as apprentices: 1673 Thomas Langley; 1676 Henry Godfrey; 1684 Edward Page; 1686 Joseph Rustin.

He was still alive in 1694 but is believed to have died before 1699 (perhaps before 1697 as he did not sign the 1697 oath of allegiance for any London city company). He was married in 1653 (error for 1663?) at Oxford St Michael's to Elizabeth Spence. He is believed to have died in 1699, possibly buried at St James's Clerkenwell,

London. One watch is recorded by him and several lantern clocks have been noted, signed 'John Quelch Oxford' and 'John Quelch of Oxford'. See my article in *Clockwork* magazine, October 2010.







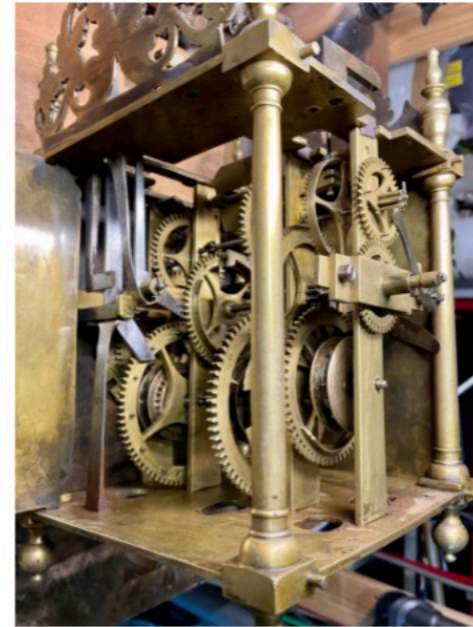
TOMLINSON, WILLIAM. London. He was born about 1673 and made a Free Brother in the Clockmakers' Company in July 1699. He was a Quaker watchmaker of Miles Lane, London, described as the son of Thomas Tomlinson of Crosmoore, Lancashire, yeoman, when he attended a meeting in October 1699 proposing marriage to Mary Cheney of Spitalfields, which took place on 14 November 1699, then said to be of Burchin Lane.

His second marriage was in 1721 to Mary Lloyd, widow of Samuel Lloyd, late of Aldersgate Street, grocer, deceased, at which time he was described as of White Hart Court, Gracechurch Street. He took as apprentices: November 1703 James Snelling; January 1708/9 Jonathan Newton (son of Anthony Newton of Croydon, Surrey, wheelwright); February 1710/11 Devereux Bowly, free November 1718; December 1714 Joseph Taylor (son of Joseph Taylor, mercer, of Godalming, Surrey).

In 1720, when watch-case maker William Jaques died, Tomlinson paid off an account he owed him of £107 6s 8d. He was Master of the Clockmakers' Company in 1733. In 1748 he worked as a finisher at Stoke Newington. He died of old age on 30 March 1750 aged about 77, being buried in Bunhill Fields on 8 April 1750. He is said to have worked at the Dial and Three Crowns in Birchin

Three Crowns in White Hart Court, Gracechurch Street. The house in White Hart Court was taken over in 1747 by Quaker physician Dr John Fothergill, who had lodged there since 1741 and described his lodgings as 'Tis a watchmaker's in Whitehart Court next door to the meeting house'. Longcase and bracket clocks, and watches are on record, signed 'W. Tomlinson, London'.





JOURDAIN, WILLIAM (I). London. Sometimes Guillaume Jordain. He was apprenticed through the Clockmakers' Company in April 1646 to Robert Smith (through Thomas Alcock) but not freed.

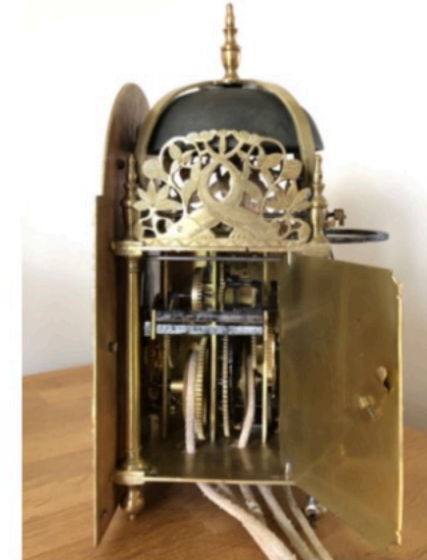
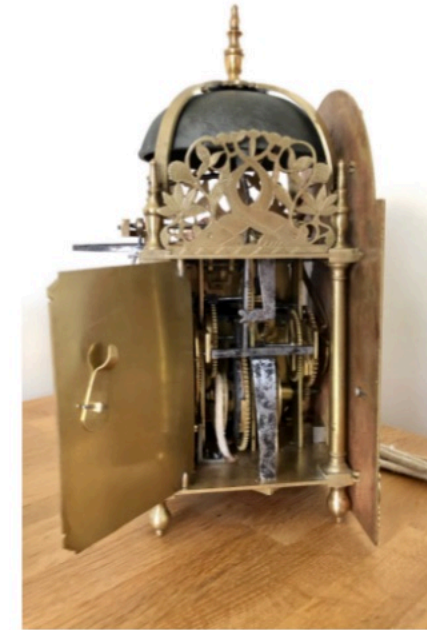
JOURDAIN, WILLIAM (II). London. He was a Huguenot refugee to London in 1699. In July 1699 a child, William, was baptised to William Jourdain and his wife, Anne, at the French Huguenot Church in Threadneedle Street, in September 1700 a son, Pierre Aaron, and in December 1703 a son, Nicholas. He is listed as working in Stewart Street, Artillery Ground in 1700, Smack Street, Artillery Ground in 1703, then in Dossett Street, Stepney in 1704. He was a watchmaker at Spitalfields in 1714, when his son, Aaron, was apprenticed to John Benech, watchmaker, and in 1717 when his son, Nicholas, was apprenticed to the same master.

He was a mercer of Wandsworth, London, (formerly a clockmaker at Spitalfields) when his will was proved at the Prerogative Court of Canterbury in January 1748. Longcase and bracket clocks are known signed variously 'Jourdain London', 'William Jourdain', 'Wm. Jourdain London' and 'William Jourdain London'.



George, 5 November 1655 Benjamin, 7 February 1657/8 Joseph. In 1662 he was still working in Lothbury according to the Company listing. He may then have re-married and moved (following the Great Fire of 1666) to the parish of St Katherine Creechurch, where a son, William, was baptised in March 1666/7 to a wife named Ann. He took several apprentices (some of them known Quakers) through the Clockmakers' Company including: July 1648 Thomas Evans, free September 1673; December 1649 Carr Coventry, free July 1657; December 1649 Richard Brent; September 1651 Philip Whinfield; June 1655 Thomas Langlely, free October 1664; May 1656 Richard Perry; March 1662/3 Robert Moone; April 1669 Nicholas Towell; July 1670 William Clift; January 1674/5 Thomas Virgoe, free June 1682; August 1676 Francis Drummond. He did not take his own sons (Samuel, Benjamin and probably William) as apprentices but they were made free anyway by right of patrimony.

In January 1674/5 he was appointed Beadle, and in this capacity he acted as intermediary to bind many apprentices (35, perhaps including some of the above) to other masters, many of them Quakers. In September 1680 he was discharged from that office 'being charged with negligence and unfitness for the place, and he not much desirous to keep it, unless he might have an augmentation of allowance ...'. He last paid quarterage in 1684 and probably died in that year. Certainly he was dead before 1697/8. He was probably succeeded by Francis Stamper, former apprentice of his eldest son, Samuel Davis (II), who probably died before him, as did his son, Benjamin. A longcase is known signed 'Samuel Davis Londini fecit', and several lantern clocks are known, signed variously 'Samuell Davis in Lothbury Fecit', and 'Samuell Davis at London. in Lothbury'.



DAVIS, SAMUEL (I). London. He was probably a Quaker, or at least had a close association with them. He was born about 1626 and was apprenticed in February 1641 through the Clockmakers' Company to William Selwood (through Richard Masterson) and was made free in 1647/8 after which he worked at the Golden Ball in Lothbury (Francis Stamper worked there later). In 1652 he was fined 40s by the Company for poor workmanship in a faulty clock, which they destroyed.

About 1650 he was married to Rachel X by whom he had several children baptised at St Margaret's Lothbury including: 23 November 1651 Samuel, 16 April 1653



