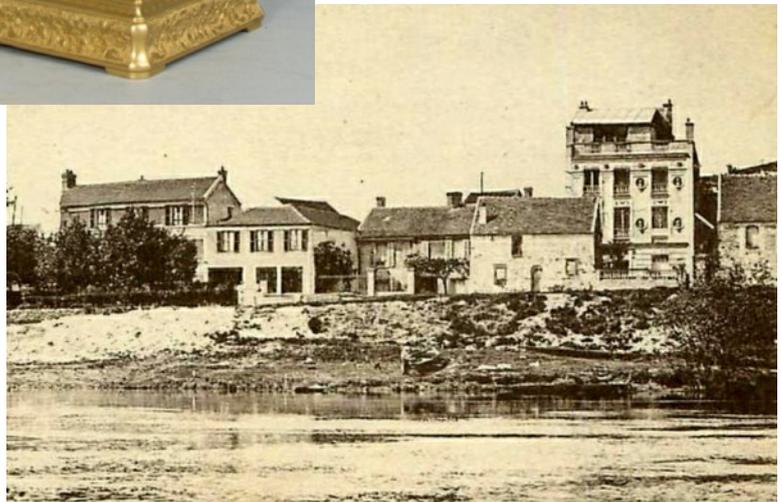


Pierre & Alfred
Drocourt

An Exhibition of Carriage Clocks



Leigh Extence

Fine Antique Clocks

10th - 15th November 2014

Leigh Extence

Fine Antique Clocks

A Exhibition of Carriage Clocks by the Parisian *horlogers*
Pierre & Alfred Drocourt

With a summary of the in-depth research undertaken, using source material, on this famous family
This material is being prepared for full publication at a later date

Tel: 01395 268723
Mob: 07967 802160
email: leigh@extence.co.uk

www.extence.co.uk



EXHIBITION INTRODUCTION

Whilst researching the lives and clocks of the famous Parisian carriage clock maker Henri Jacot, his brother Julien and nephew Albert, culminating in the 2013 exhibition of some thirty-five carriage clocks, I was also doing the same for their contemporaries, and equals, Pierre Drocourt and his son Alfred. Rather as with the Jacot family, it came as a surprise that no one had seemingly looked in-depth at the Drocourt family and their clocks and a fair amount that had been previously recorded is either incorrect or incomplete.

Uncovering the birthplace of Etienne-Pierre Drocourt was a wonderful moment, as was finding images of the house that he retired to in the country and the detailed description of their workshops and house in Saint-Nicolas-d'Alhiermont. That it then emerged that the birthplaces of father and son, one in the country and the other in the city, had connections in one form or another with the Jacot family was an added bonus. Many times a path of research would deviate and I would come across fascinating, and unknown but important, aspects of the carriage clock business that added greatly to its history. Perhaps the most satisfying was unravelling the main carriage clock dial makers based on the squiggled marks placed on the backs; all hitherto unrecorded in this context. Not only did it give an insight into the working practices and relationships of the individual dial makers, enamellers and painters, but enough material came to light to consider a separate catalogue on them alone.

Whilst undertaking the research I was also compiling a collection of Drocourt carriage clocks, as well as listing all those known into a database for future reference and I must give thanks to those dealers, collectors and auction houses around the world who supplied both images and information on the clocks to add to this. The list has since risen to over six-hundred examples and some interesting patterns have shown themselves, especially in the method of manufacturing movements from the early examples supplied by H.L., to the transition period in the mid-1870's when Pierre handed over control of the business to Alfred, and then on into the latter years.

The two strands of research, the clocks and the family, proved of equal fascination, but in very different ways. At times I became so immersed in their world that it was almost as if I was living alongside them and it would be true to say that I was actually close to tears on finding the death certificate of Pierre Drocourt.

This catalogue is merely a brief summary of the on-going research undertaken on the Drocourt family and, rather with that on Jacot, concentrates on the years from the 1860's. A larger publication concentrating on both families is due in the near future and will add more from both this period and the early years to include the deeper research taken on the operation in Saint-Nicolas-d'Alhiermont, including more on the elusive *H.L.* and the relationships between Alfred Drocourt, Auguste Lechevallier, Onesime Dumas and Émile Delepine. Unravelling the mystery of H.L. was particularly satisfying and took considerable detective work; their identity will be revealed in the near-future, but it isn't the usual suspects as previously recorded.

A number of the earlier clocks exhibited are not signed for Drocourt, but are made by H.L. with whom Drocourt obviously worked alongside and which are a major part of the story.

I would obviously be glad to hear from anyone who can add details of clocks to the database or more on the family itself.

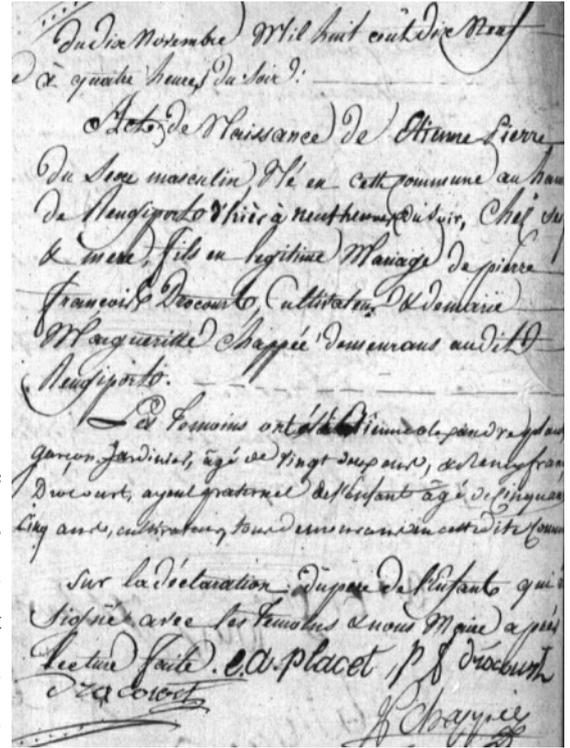
ETIENNE-PIERRE DROCOURT

Etienne-Pierre (Pierre) Drocourt came from a rural French farming family with no connection whatsoever with horology. But he did have a near-neighbour who *was* very much involved in the business, which adds some interest to his history.

He was born at four o'clock in the evening of the 10th of November, 1819 to *cultivateur* Pierre-Francois and his wife Margueritte, nee Chappée, in the hamlet of Gargenville, some thirty miles from Paris, their home being on the road to the small port of Rangiport; merely a few quays situated on a bend of the river Seine.

A short walk from Gargenville, across a number of fields, is found the village of Guitrancourt, later the home of the horologist Julien Jacot, being the brother of Henri Jacot with whom he worked alongside in Paris, and the father of Henri's nephew & successor, Albert Jacot. Julien Jacot was born in Switzerland in 1804, some fifteen years before Drocourt, and was known to have moved to Guitrancourt in or just after 1841, this being the first year that Drocourt doesn't

appear on the census, his last entry being 1836, aged sixteen, when living with his mother; his father having passed away in April 1832. It is therefore quite possible that in this small community the young Drocourt knew the Jacot family, if only for a short while. This could be considered one reason that Pierre Drocourt developed an interest in horology, with such a highly regarded family of makers on his doorstep.



699	Chappée	Marie Marg ^{te}	...	"	"	"	"	"	1	13.
700	Drocourt	Amédée	Cult ^{eur}	1	"	"	"	"	"	18.
701	Drocourt	Joseph	...	1	"	"	"	"	"	18.com
702	Drocourt	Jacques	...	1	"	"	"	"	"	16.

The Gargenville Census of 1836 showing Pierre Drocourt living with his brothers and mother; his father having passed away



Rangiport in 1824 when Pierre Drocourt was five years old. He would retire to the house five along from the left-hand bend



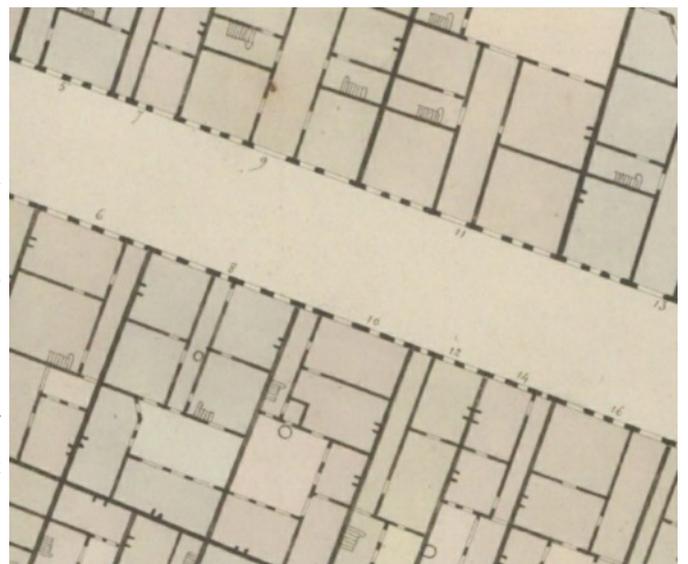
The view from near to the front of Rue Au Maire 36 looking down Beaubourg with rue Montmorency, home to Jacot, in the distance.

So by late 1841 Pierre Drocourt was no longer recorded in the Gargenville census, having left his widowed mother and siblings, and had presumably, by the age of twenty-two, moved to Paris.

The first record of him in the city is his marriage to Marie-Adèle Vandel (sometimes Vandelle) on the 3rd of April, 1845. Unfortunately the records of this marriage were destroyed when the Communards set fire to the Hôtel de Ville, the city hall, in January 1871. The next record of the family is the birth of their son, and successor in the business, Alfred Drocourt, on the 7th of October 1847. Although the record for this birth was also lost in the fire, it is known that they were at the original rue Saintonge 8, as this is shown on Alfred's wedding notice some years later.

Prior to her marriage, Marie-Adèle Drocourt was living with her parents at rue Au Maire 36. Interestingly, also living at this address at the time was the *horloger* Gamichon. This property was near the corner with rue Beaubourg, then known as Transnonian, and looked almost directly down the street to rue Montmorency and the home and workshops of Henri & Julien Jacot.

The author Carel du Cam, when writing a report for the 1889 Paris Exposition, suggests that the Drocourt business was founded in 1846, despite no record of Pierre working on his own account until some five years later. Maybe this was the year that he completed his training and became a fully-fledged maker. Another most interesting connection came when during my searches through various archives I found the marriage record for Olympe Baveux which registered her birth in 1842 at Saintonge 8. She was the daughter of Louis Baveux, *horloger* of Saint-Nicolas d'Aliermont who, in my previous research into Henri Jacot, was proven to have later supplied Henri Jacot with *blancs roulants* for the more complicated movements that Jacot then finished in Paris. She was therefore the brother of Alfred Baveux, born two years later in Saint-Nicolas, who himself went on to supply Henri Jacot's successor Albert Jacot from the early 1880's, being those at first stamped with the AB trademark. This is further discussed in my Henri Jacot exhibition catalogue of November 2013. It must be considered more than coincidence that Pierre Drocourt came from a small farming hamlet in the country where lived Julien Jacot, brother and partner to Henri Jacot, and that he is first recorded living in Paris at an address at which Louis Baveux is also registered, an *horloger* with such strong links to the Jacot family. Pierre & Marie-Adèle were still living at number 8 in 1851 as their daughter Melanie was born on the 10th of February of that year. As noted in the map showing the road layout, Saintonge 8 was not situated at the modern address, but further up the street as the roads that now make up Saintonge were originally four variously named, joining to become one in 1851, with number eight becoming 38, as it still is today.



Saintonge 8, birthplace of Alfred Drocourt, his sister Melanie and Olympe Baveux. Across the road is number 11, address of Raingo Freres and Jean-Honore Vandel, and which was to become 43.

Across the road from Drocourt, at number 11, were working the well-known clockmakers Raingo Frères, this address becoming Saintonge 43 with the Raingo publicity stating that they were there *ci-devant*, before 1851, suggesting that they were in-residence when it was number 11 before the aforementioned road layout change. Also at 43, certainly by 1854, was Jean-Honore Vandel, *grand-oncle* to Marie-Adèle, where he was working as both an *horloger* and a *founder d'or et d'argent*. Jean-Honore is often noted as a witness to documents appertaining to the family, including both the marriages of Alfred and his sister Melanie. As number 8 isn't registered as business premises, it may be that it was purely living accommodation and they worked elsewhere, possibly across at number 11 (43), especially knowing the Vandel connection.

There is no record of Drocourt in the *Annuaire du Commerce Didot-Bottin* Paris almanac of 1852, so it must be that he was an *ouvrier*, worker, probably still living in rue Saintonge and without his own business. But within a year this was to change as in the 1853 almanac he is shown to be at Coutures-St-Gervais 3, then in the 8th Arrondissement, as an *horloger*; this property has since been demolished and is now a children's open-air park on the corner with rue Vieille du Temple.

Two years later, in 1855, the *Annuaire du Commerce* records Pierre Drocourt at two addresses. Most of the entries for a business recorded in the almanac show just a name and address, but we are lucky with both these Drocourt entries as they also give a description of the business, both of which throw light onto the practices of Pierre before the later known period when the business becomes more commercial.

598
 Delrieux Vve) et Kreski, *fab. spéciale d'encriers, Puits-Blancs-Manteaux, 9. **
 Drocourt, *fab. d'horlogerie, spécialité d'encriers, pendules marbre et bronze, avec quantièmes perpétuels, à échappements circulaires, Coutures-St-Gervais, 3. **
 Dubin, *fab. d'encriers de poche à ressorts genres anglais, bronzes et couverts de peaux; encriers de bureaux, commission, exportation, Pierre-Levée, 12.**
 Dunoyer, *encriers à pompe, arti-*

Dreyfus, *martyrs, 50.*
 Dreyss, *Université, 77.*
 Drocourt, *fab. d'horlogerie, spécialité de pendules de voyage et encriers-pendules, marbre et bronze, avec quantièmes perpétuels, à échappement circulaire, Limoges, 8. **
 Dromery, *Buffault, 5.*
 Drouot, *pl. Maubert, 36.*
 Droz (P.-F.), *Roquepine, 11.*
 Dubois (P.), *Elh-Poissonnière, 13.*

Interestingly the first entry is under that for *Encriers (fab. de)*, makers of inkwells, with his address being 3, Coutures-St-Gervais. The translation reads, with a possible misplaced comma:

Drocourt, clockmaker, specialising in inkwells, clocks, marble & bronze, with perpetual calendars and circular escapements.

Presumably these were of a similar style to the mantel clocks with visible escapements and double, and sometimes triple, dials as often seen from this period. That Drocourt made these clocks, and wasn't just a maker of *pendules*

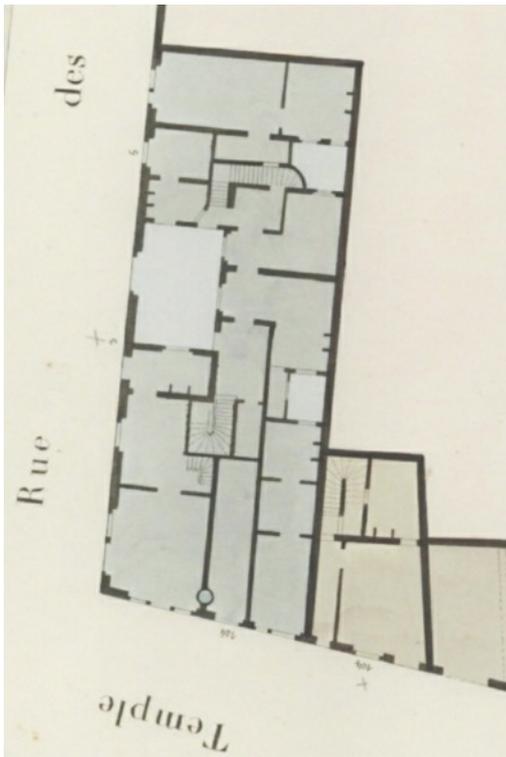
de voyage, is a rather lovely discovery as this fact was not previously known, with most horological commentators stating that Drocourt was only ever a maker of carriage clocks. The second entry is very similar in wording, but differs in a number of subtle ways, with his address given as rue Limoges 8, being that most associated with him:

Drocourt, clockmaker, specialising in carriage clocks and inkwell clocks, marble & bronze, with perpetual calendars and circular escapements.

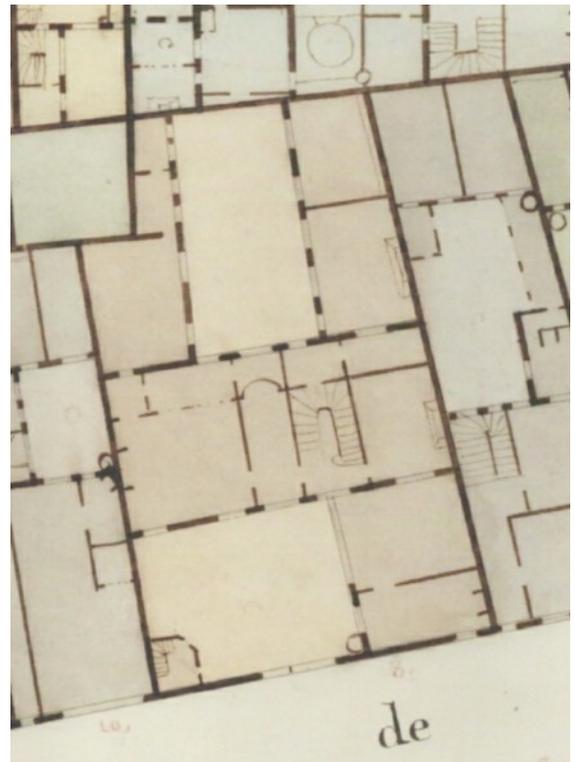
The inkwell clocks mentioned may well be similar to those signed by Moser at this period, especially now knowing that Moser was being supplied by Hologing frères who were so closely associated with Drocourt.

The entry in the following year, 1856, also shows both addresses but with no business descriptions, although the earlier address is under *P. Drocourt* whilst Limoges 8 is just under *Drocourt*. At the new address he joined *horlogers* Henrion and Blanpain, the latter to become a major supplier to the London clock agent Ernest Pitcher. As the first address makes no mention of *pendules de voyage*, but the latter does, it must be assumed that it was in 1855, and the move to the new premises, that saw Drocourt first take on the manufacture of carriage clocks for which the business was to become so well-known.

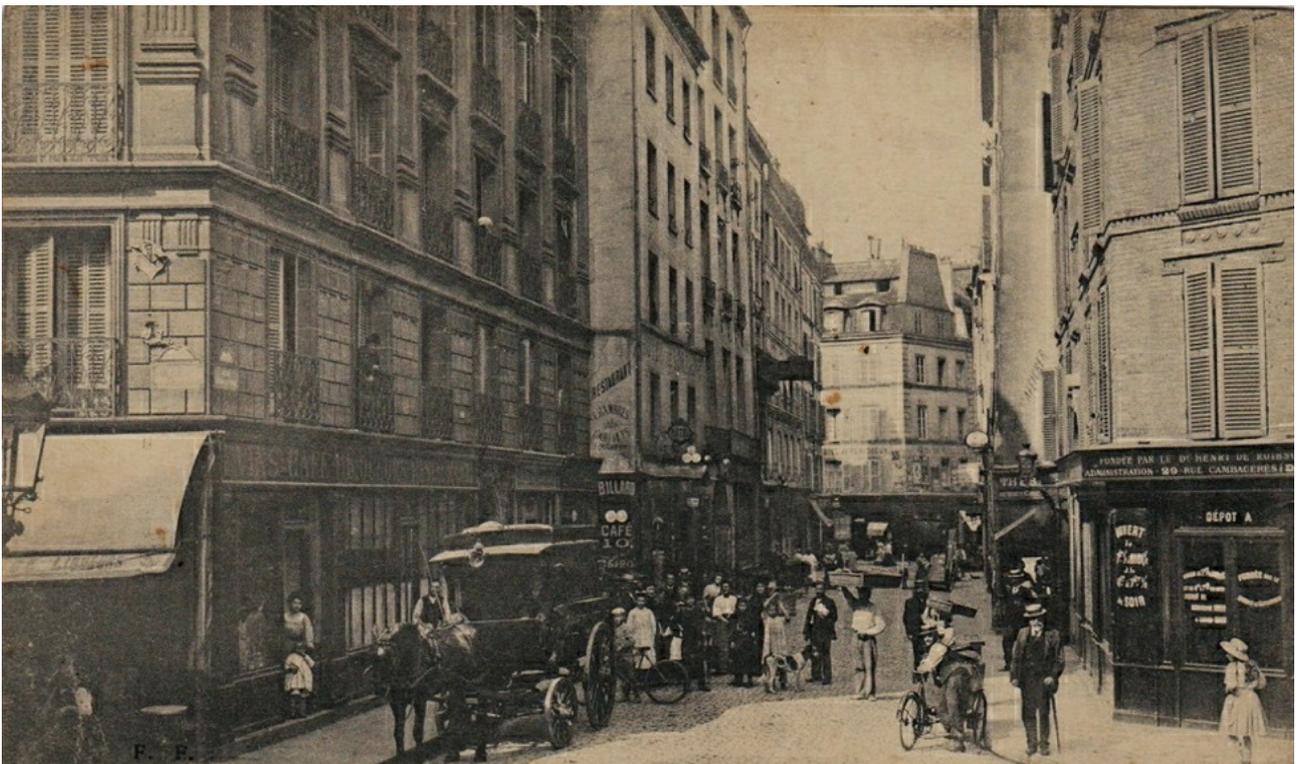
Rue Limoges had a name change to rue Debelleye in 1865 after amalgamation with other streets in the Marais area; named after magistrate Louis-Maurice Debelleye who died in 1862. With this came a change of property number; 8 becoming 28. What also became apparent during research was that the premises were not only workshops for Drocourt but also a shop, with both advertising and directory entries making it quite clear that it was a *magasin d'horlogerie*. In 1908 & 1909 the Drocourt address is recorded as 31, rue Debelleye, which by the following year had been taken over by the horloger Louis Chazel.



Coutures-Saint-Gervais, 3

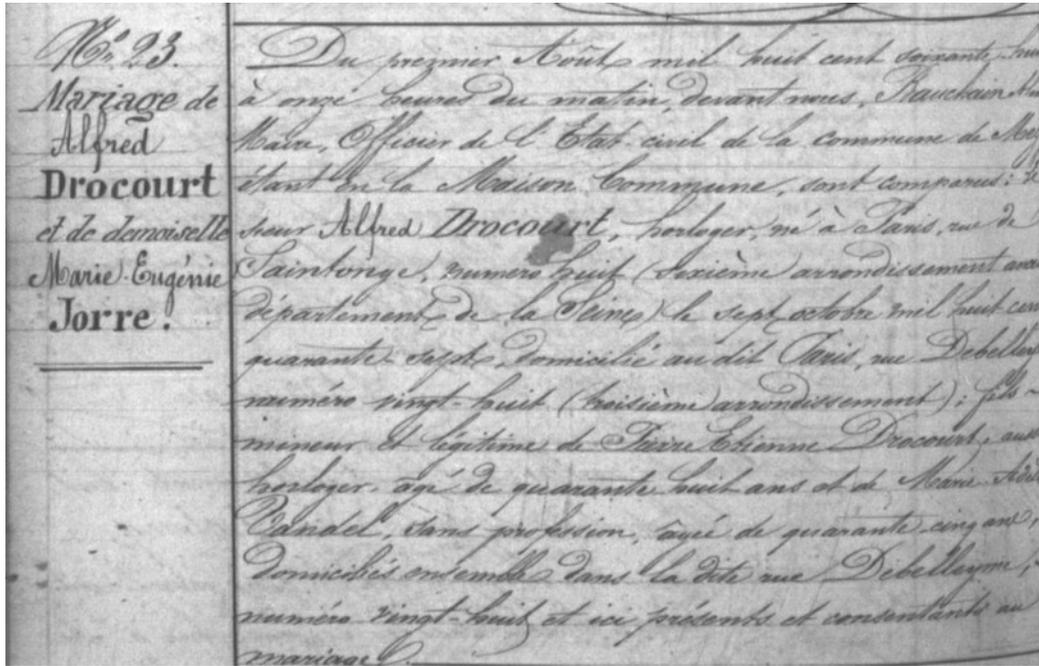


Rue Limoges, 8 becoming rue Debelleyme 28



Rue Debelleyme, previously rue Limoges, with number 28, the premises of Drocourt, on the right being just beyond the building that comes out into the pavement with the round lamp attached. The fabricant d'horlogerie Rolson had the premises at number 24, two doors nearer the camera and that with the traditional style lamp.

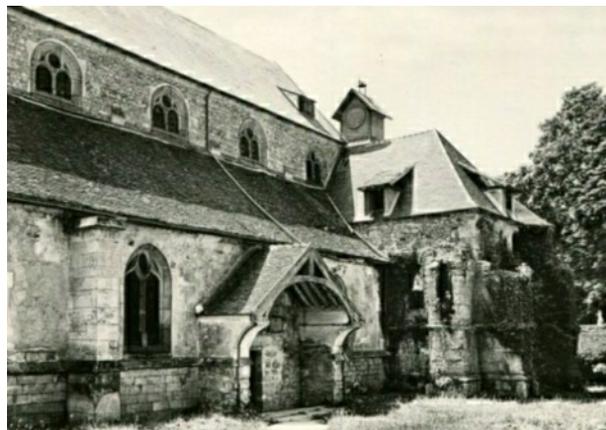
In the far distance, on the corner across rue de Bretagne, can be seen a large white building beyond which is number 33 rue Debelleyme, the home of Eugène Didier. She was to marry Auguste Lechevallier, a directeur de Maison Drocourt, who, as will be discussed, moved to Saint-Nicolas d'Alhiermont where he was to manage the Drocourt manufactory business after the take-over by Alfred. Number 33 backs onto rue Saintonge, 8, the birthplace of Alfred Drocourt, and this property may well be the higher roof visible with the two windows set below the eaves adjacent to number 31 that became, for a short period, the address for Drocourt after 1900.



On the 1st of August 1868, Alfred Drocourt married Marie-Eugénie Jorre in the town of Mezy-sur-Seine, the adjoining village to Gargenville. The marriage document gives both Alfred and his parents as living at Debelleyme 28 and confirms Alfred's birth at Saintonge 8; with the publication *L'Indicateur des Mariages De Paris* also confirming this. Marie-Eugénie is recorded as living with her parents in the village, her place of birth is shown as rue Boileau 15, Auteuil. Now a suburb of Paris, Auteuil was considered at the time to be one of the wealthiest neighbourhoods surrounding the city with many large mansions and gated villas and her place of birth still stands unchanged from then. The marriage certificate was witnessed by Jean-Honore Vandel, Alfred's *grand-oncle*, who also witnessed the marriage of Alfred's sister Melanie who wed the *opticien* Jean-Aime Banderier on the 8th of May 1873. Banderier originated from the Jura region of southern France, an area rich in *horlogers* and from where many of the *blancs roulants* that found their way to Paris for finishing were made. Melanie's address is given as *avec les Mere et Pere* at rue Commines 15, Paris. As shall be seen, by this time Pierre Drocourt was living back in his home village of Rangiport so it may be that this was an address at which they were staying for the duration of their daughter's wedding; either a hotel or a place belonging to friends. Her brother Alfred has his address recorded as rue Debelleyme 28, which confirms that Pierre had by now handed over the day-to-day running of the business to his son.



The birthplace of Marie-Eugénie Jorre; Rue Boileau, 15, being the white house nearest the camera with the round window



Mezy-sur-Seine Church

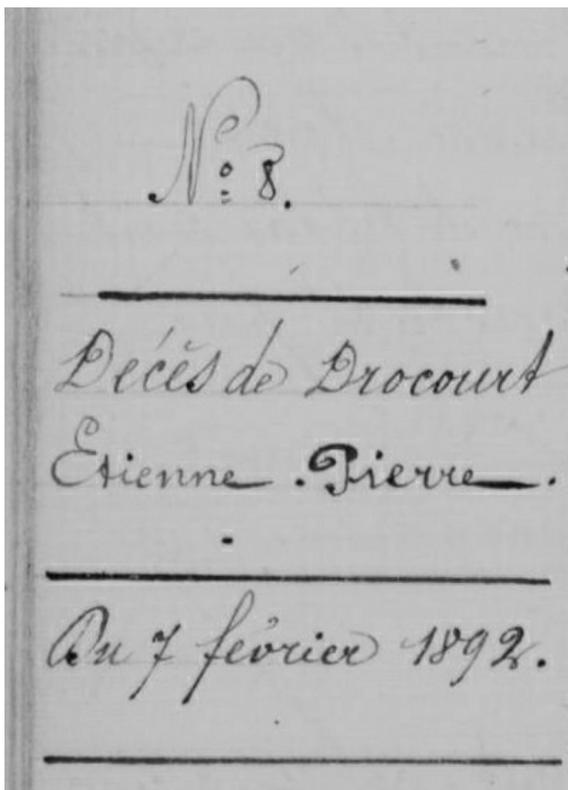
By 1872 Pierre and his wife had returned to live in Rangiport, on the river Seine near Gargenville, with Pierre's mother Marie-Marguerite, nee Chappée and twenty-one year old daughter Melanie, prior to her marriage the following year. The Paris business had changed name from *Drocourt* to *Drocourt et Fils* in 1870 as Alfred became a partner, reverting to *Drocourt* by 1873, further confirming the hand-over.

22	Drocourt	Paul Etienne	Rentier chevalier	1				35 ans	Français, né à Rangiport le 26/11/1836
23	Andel	Marie Adèle	Rentière sa femme				1	31 ans	Française née à Paris (Seine)
24	Drocourt	Melanie	leur fille				1	21 ans	— id —
25	Chappée	Marie	Rentière mère de M. Drocourt				1	79 ans	Française née à Gargenville (Seine-et-Marne)



Pierre Drocourt's house in Rangiport, situated on the right-hand side of the road behind the fishermen's stores.

In the census of 1876, with Melanie now living in Paris, the family have a *domestiqué* but by 1891 Pierre is living alone, his mother having died in June 1882 and his wife Marie-Adèle in December 1889.



Etienne-Pierre Drocourt died in the village on the 7th of February 1892, where he was described as a *propriétaire*.

In both the census of 1896 and 1902 it is shown that his daughter Melanie and husband Jean-Aime Banderier have moved into the family home having previously lived at rue Portfoin 3, Paris, in the heart of the horological district of the 3rd Arrondissement.

To add to the Drocourt/Jacot connections, how interesting that Adele, daughter of Alfred & Marie-Eugénie Drocourt, who was born at rue Debelleye 28 in April 1869, went on to marry the *horloger* Alexandre Bredillard in January 1890. He was born in the town of Moret-sur-Loing, as was Nicolas Bredillard who was living and working at rue Montmorency 31 alongside Albert Jacot, successor to Henri Jacot, when Alexandre moved to Paris to train and become a clockmaker, with Nicolas's son Eugene, born at rue Montmorency, being the same age as Alexandre.

ALFRED DROCOURT

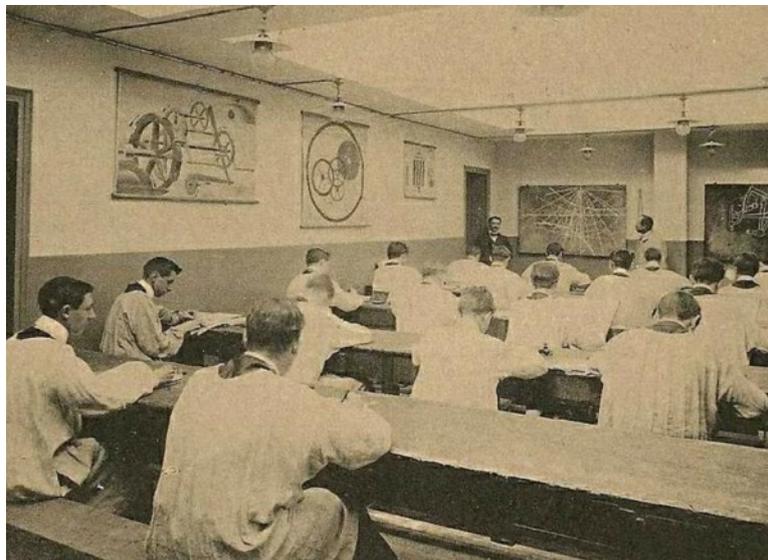
Alfred Drocourt took on the running of the business with some enthusiasm and by the mid-1870s was very much involved in the Parisian horological world.

With the industry flourishing in France at this time, and in particular Paris, a number of *horlogers* decided to set up an association known as the *Chambre Syndicale de l'Horlogerie de Paris*. Limited to twenty-one members, with others being elected as *adherents* (associate members), the aim was to further various important issues amongst the members. Emilé Japy was elected President at the first meeting on the 7th of March 1873, with the group consisting of prominent members of the industry, including the twenty-six year old Alfred Drocourt amongst that initial twenty-one. In contrast Albert Jacot was neither a member nor an adherent at this time, and it would appear as if he hadn't even put himself forward as either. This is somewhat surprising considering the standing of the Henri Jacot business within the French horological community. His uncle Henri Jacot had been an active member of a previous society, *La Societe des Horlogers de Paris*, which was set up in 1856 and consisted of not only the major names in French horology such as Brequet, Garnier and Oudin, but also others from abroad including Henry Grandjean from Switzerland, Louis-Urbain Jurgensen from Denmark and James Ferguson Cole from London. It would appear that the forming of the new *Chambre Syndicale* saw the start of the decline of the former group, with both using the *Revue Chronométrique* as a mouthpiece; although Claudius Saunier, founder and editor of the *Revue* was still giving himself the title of *secrétaire-général* of the *Societe des Horlogers* in 1882.

That the new organisation was at first under the guidance of the National Union of Trade & Industry of France would suggest that they were intending to be a far more robust and professional set-up and may well be the reasoning behind having an *elite* council heading a group of adherents with the aim of promoting the finer and more specialist aspects of the business.

Council members were elected on three yearly cycles, and as will be noted Drocourt took the opportunity to resign after his tenure had come to an end and didn't offer himself up for re-election in 1876. He did continue to give his time and effort in many other ways. When the *Chambre Syndicale* set in motion the opening of an horological school in Paris it wasn't long before Alfred Drocourt was involved not only as a supporter, as most of the Parisian horological trade where, but also serving as treasurer, being listed as such, *Tresorier of Consel d'Administration*, in 1887/88 and was certainly vice-president in 1897. He is also known to have given prizes in the form of medals and money for those apprentices and workers who it was deemed by the council were deserving, including a *récompenser* of 25 francs in July 1905.

By 1882, along with A.H. Rodanet, the President of the *Chambre Syndicale*, Drocourt was on the editorial committee of the *Revue Chronométrique* which was now being published by the *Chambre* itself.



Horological pupils undertaking theoretical training at the *École d'Horlogerie* situated at Rue Manin, 30; under the watchful eye of Alfred Drocourt standing in the doorway.

CARRIAGE CLOCKS

This is a short summary of my research so far undertaken into the movements and carriage clocks of the Drocourt business.

The first signed *Drocourt* carriage clocks were made from the late-1860's with the *blanc roulant* movements supplied to them by the elusive H.L., who it is known also made complete clocks. But there were obviously earlier examples, being that my research shows that Pierre Drocourt was working as a maker of *pendule de voyages* from at least 1855. I have in my possession a decorative cast cased clock nearly identical to 1311, and having the same type of platform with a plain flat brass balance, which is stamped with the serial number 2. As seen in the catalogue description, 1311 is signed by Drocourt, whilst number 2 is unmarked on the movement, excepting the serial number; but the rear of the dial is signed in ink AP for the dial maker Aimé Petremand, or more likely his widow and son-in-law Mojon, alongside the wording M. Drt which, when knowing how any markings written on the dial backs nearly always made reference to the dial maker and clockmaker, makes me quite sure that this has to be for *Monsieur Drocourt*. I have searched all my references and cannot find any other maker that would fit the bill as far as these initials are concerned.

Since first producing this catalogue I have undertaken further research on H.L. and can be pretty conclusive in stating that these are the initials of the Saint-Nicolas-d'Alhiermont makers Hologue Frères who were suppliers of both movements and clocks to many fine horologists including Paul Garnier, Moise Bollviller and Athanase Bourdin.

H.L. numbered their movements with a *clock* serial number on the backplate and another *blanc roulant* serial number on the plates, which, give-or-take some slight fluctuations, went in sequence with each other irrespective whether the clocks were supplied to a known maker such as Drocourt, Leroy or Bolviller, or were sold anonymously. It would appear that when first using the H.L. movements Drocourt continued the H.L. clock serial numbering sequence as there is no change from the earlier H.L. non-Drocourt numbering to those movements then used by Drocourt when he became either sole user of the H.L. movements, or certainly the main client. The last recorded signed H.L. movement used by Drocourt is *clock* number 11715, although it is without a *blanc roulant* number and has straight crossing out to the wheelwork as would be expected from a Drocourt piece, so possibly using up the last of the Hologue plates, especially when taking note of 10757 below. The last H.L. with a *blanc roulant* number so far recorded is 10663, a gorge cased striking example retailed by Leroy et Fils, Palais Royal, Paris, with the *blanc roulant* number 19941. This movement can be dated to circa 1875 as it is fairly certain that 10757 was made in 1875/76. This numbering corresponds to the take-over of the workshops by Drocourt as outlined below.

The first Drocourt clock known to definitely *not* have the H.L. stamp on the front-plate is 10757, nor interestingly does it have a *blanc roulant* number. That this clock was made as the workshops changed hands is apparent by the addition of an engraved presentation to the case dated 1st Janvier 1877, placing it in 1875 or 1876. A study of the plates would suggest that this movement is indeed a remnant from the H.L. workshop, quite probably stock handed over as part of the sale, and then used by Drocourt for this clock; the layout and the *Fast/Slow* engraved regulation to the top of the backplate are all features still apparent. It also employs a new style of dial decoration, with diamonds at the quarters of the outer aspect & dots for the remaining five minute intervals, first seen on the very last of the H.L. movements, serial number 9534 is recorded with this and is within a few hundred or so clocks before the H.L. stamp disappears; and as also seen on dials fitted to Jacot carriage clocks. This all coincides with Alfred Drocourt securing his own workshops in Saint-Nicolas d'Alhiermont, a town a few miles from the port of Dieppe. Saint-Nicolas had previously been rich in horlogers but by the late 18th century decline had set in. It was to be rejuvenated in 1806 when Pons-de-Paul (Honoré Pons) opened his workshops there at the request of the Ministry of the Interior, with a brief to bring the town back to horological prominence. This he did with great success and so it became one of the most important sources of the *blancs roulants* used by the Parisian *horlogers* including those supplied to Henri Jacot, and it was in this town that both Jacot and Drocourt were to eventually set-up their own workshops.

A well-known collector of carriage clocks in the post-war era was the the dentist Dr. A.B. Dickie, who was the friend of another keen collector, Mr Attar. It was Mr Attars' son Simon who kindly supplied me with information on many of the Jacot clocks that passed through his father's hands. The correspondence with Simon reminded me of an article that had been written by Dr. Dickie for the June 1963 edition of *Antiquarian Horology*, the journal of the *Antiquarian Horological Society*, in which he places on record some of his findings regarding the carriage clock industry in Saint-Nicolas-d'Aliermont. He was fortunate to undertake research in an era when a number of the workers from the industry were still alive and as such he was able to correspond with them. He received information from one, Mme. Vve. G. Gamard, who stated that Drocourt bought a small factory from Albert Hollinge in circa 1875 or 1876, but as some of her other reminiscences were slightly off the mark I felt it prudent to try and double-check this information. Whilst doing so it was noted that the spelling of Hollinge varies, with the more common way being Hologue, or sometimes Hollingue. So with Mme. Gamard's dates in mind I went in search of confirmation. It was stated by Mme. Gamard that the workshops were run by a manager transferred by Alfred Drocourt from Paris, Auguste le Chevallier, although in actual he was named Auguste Lechevallier. By searching the archives of both Paris and Saint-Nicolas I was able to determine that the date of his moving to the town must have been 1875 or 1876 as he was married in Paris in June 1868 where was born his son Louis in September 1874, with his next born, a daughter named Lucie, in Saint-Nicolas in December 1876. The dates given by Mme. Gamard were therefore basically correct. That she mentions Albert Hollingue must surely be Louis Albert, the son of Louis and who in 1874 was aged twenty-six and settled in Paris. It is unlikely that he was the one who sold the business, but his father and uncle; unless he had been given the instruction to sell-on the business having decided to not continue it himself, preferring the bright lights of Paris having married there in 1870, to the daughter of Victor Reclus, a carriage clock maker who was known to use Hologue movements.

56

REVUE CHRONOMÉTRIQUE.

Séance du 17 mars 1876.

M. Japy donne lecture :

1^o De deux lettres de MM. Dupin-Varenne et Drocourt donnant leur démission de membre de la Chambre; leurs occupations les appelant souvent hors de Paris, il leur serait impossible à l'avenir de s'occuper sérieusement de nos travaux. Ces démissions sont acceptées.

2^o Une lettre de M. Margaine offrant, au nom de M^{me} Margaine, une cotisation de 100 fr. pour l'école d'horlogerie.

That this is also the period that Drocourt set-up his workshops is noted by the fact having joined the

Chambre Syndicale in 1873 as one of the twenty-one initial council members, Alfred Drocourt obviously found the operation in Saint-Nicolas took up much of his time as shown by a letter of resignation, along with that of Dupin-Varenne, to the Council which was read out at their meeting of the 17th of March 1876, and then published in the *Revue Chronométrique*, which states that as *their occupations often call them out of Paris, it will be impossible in the future to seriously address their work*.

Having taken the steps to open his own workshops the movements went through a number of changes of style; the layout to the dial being one, along with the *Slow/Fast* regulation engraving simplified to *S/F*, and the crossing-out to the wheel spokes being straight as opposed to the curve employed by H.L. A fair few movements were obviously cross-overs using plates from the H.L. business, although now not stamped for them and without a *blanc roulant* number; 11404 being one such example as can be seen by its' description in this catalogue compared to both previous and later clocks. Interestingly, the style of block engraving for the word 'Hands' on the backplate, along with that for 'S/F', is almost identical to that seen on the early Henri Jacot clocks before Albert Jacot switched to a flowing script style.

Clock number 14068 is the first recorded example after the loss of the H.L. mark to resume with a *blanc roulant* number on the plates, being 471. It also continues with the use of the now-standard *S/F* engraved for the regulation on the backplate, as first recorded on clock 13749; the last recorded using the H.L. style *Slow/Fast* being 13531.

The movement layouts used pre and post-H.L. are very similar with one or two small exceptions noted: mainly the barrel bridge to the going side on H.L. movements is fairly shallow, but on the Drocourt movements it has more of an angle; 14041 being shallow and one of the last of the H.L. stock used despite not being marked, with number 14290 having a steep bridge.

Over a period of time other changes were introduced; clock number 15419 has double screws used to hold the lower movement pillars to the bottom plate, a style that continued until at least number 17167 with single screws re-introduced by number 17927. 20564 sees a change of profile to the movement pillars, and one used previously by Jacot, with the lower pillar somewhat thicker than the top one; 7 mm top and 9 mm bottom. This also corresponded with the loss of the alarm hole drilled through the dial plate whether an alarm was fitted or not, something noticed on all movements including those from the H.L. period. These thicker pillars were to be the standard used until at least those serial numbers in the mid 30,000 range although the last recorded Drocourt, 36279, had reverted to both being the same size.

It is also noted that the last carriage clock to have a recorded Drocourt *blanc roulant* number was 29233 with the movement serial number 13527, after which the movements were again left blank with just the clock serial number on the backplate. A number of changes occurred near the end of clock production, and would suggest that Alfred Drocourt was probably getting some of his *blancs roulants*, if not complete clocks, from another supplier and that the workshops in Saint-Nicolas were either closed or producing less. By the late 1890s, certainly by serial number 31264, the deeply embossed DC Drocourt trademark on the backplate was replaced with a rather weak stamp and the arrow to indicate the direction for hands setting was now a fairly plain wheatear design. Although some clocks were still of a standard, a fair few weren't as seen by number 34671 which has an Obis case and a distinctly ordinary and non-Drocourt quality of movement. In 1908 Alfred Drocourt had moved up the road, across rue Bretagne, to 31 rue Debelleye, as seen signed on a number of clocks, mainly those with grande-sonnerie strike. For example number 34831, another from the *Antelis Collection* sold by Christies in 1998, is a grande-sonnerie with an interesting ivory dial signed *A. Drocourt, Hors Concours 1900, 31 rue Debelleye, Paris* with the 31 added over the rubbed out 28. The underside of the base has a similar plate engraved as 18284, as described in this catalogue, although again the 28 has been carefully struck out with engraved tramlines and the street number 31 placed beneath. This has also been seen on another grande-sonnerie, number 19101, which also has *Hors Concours 1900* written on the enamel dial, and proves somewhat of a conundrum as that number would suggest a date of manufacture of pre-1890. It must be, therefore, that Drocourt had stockpiled the grande-sonnerie clocks and they were being finished after 1900 with the new address added in place of the old. By now he uses the name with his initial, *A. Drocourt*, whereas all previous signatures were without this and just plain *Drocourt*. The fairly mundane Obis cased clock, 34671, as mentioned above and described in this catalogue, has an embossed stamp under the base with the initial on it, but the address given as 28, rue Debelleye.

As suggested by Mme. Vve G. Gamard, it may be that the workshops in Saint Nicolas d'Aliermont closed in 1900 and that Alfred continued with the remaining stock, both complete clocks and *blancs roulants*, whilst also now buying-in clocks and movements from elsewhere. Is this the reason for the addition of his initial on some clocks? It does seem conceivable, although the photograph of his stand at the 1900 Paris Exposition, as seen on the back cover, would suggest that he was still making and supplying both movements and complete clocks. I have since unearthed the 1904 sales particulars of the Drocourt house & workshops in Saint-Nicolas-d'Aliermont suggesting that the workshops were fairly new when put up for sale. This information also confirms the exact position within the town where I had believed these premises to be, which is a wonderful addition to the history of the family.

Drocourt was awarded the *Hors Concours* in 1900, being one outside of the main medal awards, as he was on the exposition jury and therefore ineligible for a medal. This was the case with a number of other jury members who were also exhibiting including Auguste H. Rodanet, the founder and president of the horological school in Paris and the school's vice-president Paul Garnier.



MOVEMENT FRONT-PLATES



3543: H.L. not for Drocourt Strike/repeat



15734: Drocourt Strike/repeat showing more angled bridge than H.L.



5206: H.L. Timepiece



13344: Drocourt Timepiece showing slight differences to the layout



7441: H.L. for Drocourt Strike/repeat alarm



19008: Grande-Sonnerie with Moonphase

MOVEMENT TRAITS

See main text for an explanation on each piece



9562: H.L. for Drocourt
curved crossings



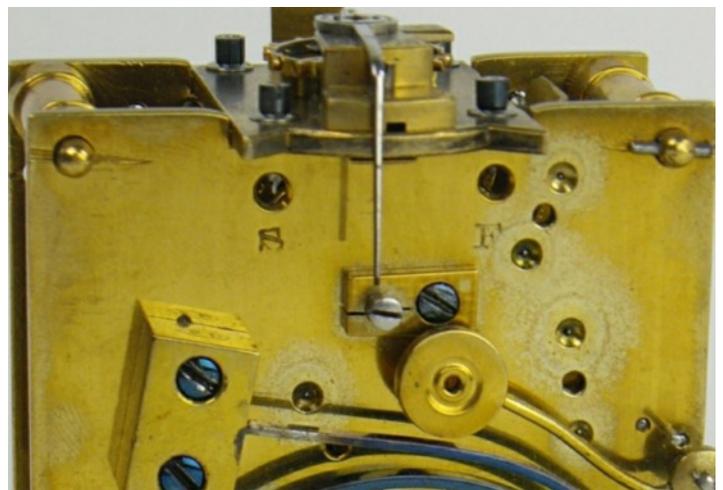
11404: Drocourt
straight crossings



15734: Drocourt
straight & curved crossings,
obviously using old H.L. stock



11404: Slow/Fast regulation as used on H.L.
and H.L. for Drocourt movements



15734: S/F regulation as used with non-H.L.
Drocourt Movements



16943: F.D Gong Block



17221: E.A Gong Block



29756: A.D Gong Block

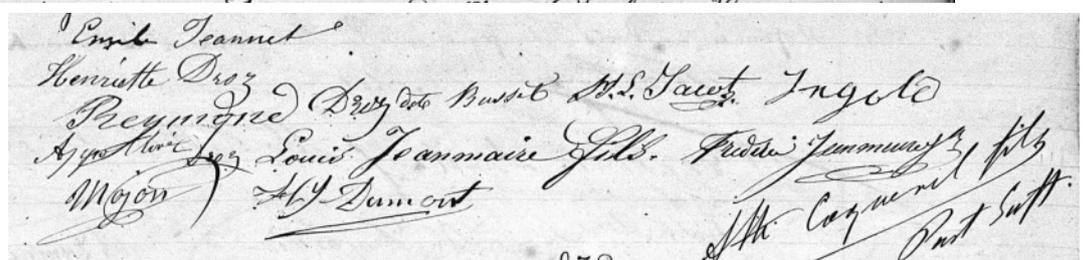
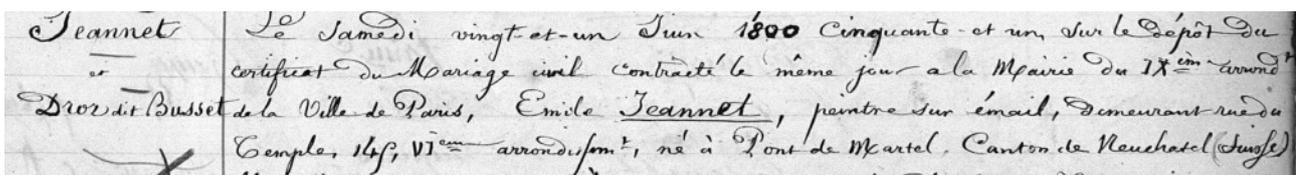
THE DIAL MAKERS

During my research into Jacot & Drocourt I have unearthed a fair amount of information regarding the makers of the carriage clock dials, *émailleurs*, and the dial painters, *peintre de cadrans*.

Many of the very first dials used on the Jacot carriage clocks were signed on the back with just a capital V but it was only on finding an example signed with a full name that his identity was revealed. A number of collectors got in touch assuming it to be 'Jacot', but on closer inspection, and with a little deciphering of French writing of the period, it became obvious that the name was in fact Valat, and the V in the full name was identical to those with just the initial. Further research into Valat revealed him to be Etienne-Jean Valat, a known *émailleur* who was born in 1798 and at one time, 1837, was working a few doors down the road from Henri & Julien Jacot at number 7, rue Montmorency. Although he died in 1874, whilst living at Enfants-rouge 6, I noticed that dials on Jacot clocks manufactured after this date had numerals with identical proportions and a delicacy only seen on examples by Valat. On taking apart one particularly fine Jacot clock, a quarter striking engraved gorge example, with what appeared an Etienne Valat dial, I noticed the movement plates were actually stamped with the date of manufacture, November 1877, some three years after the death of Valat. But then a study of the rear of the dial revealed it to be signed in ink with what looked like an AM of some description, identical to those I had seen on some H.L. and Drocourt clocks of the same period. The quality and proportions of both the dials and numerals suggested that whoever AM was must have worked with Valat; indeed under a jewellers loupe it was apparent that these dials were completely identical, almost by the same hand and certainly using the same process. I had also noticed that various later Jacot dials were signed in ink with a Jt, or just J, and had at first assumed that this was for Jacot. But having also seen it on non-Jacot dials, I realised that these were indeed the initials of a further, third dial maker. Interestingly this signature also came to light on a number of H.L. and Drocourt dials, mainly those made for Leroy.

It was at this point that I came across a wonderful document; the wedding certificate, dated the 21st of June 1851, for Émile Jeannet, *peintre sur emails* (painter on enamel) and Henriette-Augustine Droz dit Busset. And there as witnesses appeared a veritable array of signatures including the only known example for Henri Jacot himself that I have come across, along with his good friend Auguste Leon Ingold. But as exciting, staring out at me from the page was the AM script that I had seen on the back of the Jacot & Drocourt dials, being a part of the name Mojon. Further delving into the archives and the name Adolphe Mojon came to light, recorded as an *émailleur* and *peintre de cadrans*; a maker and painter of enamel dials recorded at the same address as Jeannet; rue de Temple 145. Not only that but surely this document confirmed Émile Jeannet as Jt? Especially considering that they were all obviously close to Henri Jacot being that he was at the wedding and signed as a witness; furthermore Jeannet also signed the marriage certificate of Henri Jacot's nephew and successor, Albert Jacot, in 1873, where he is described as *peintre sur cadrans*. To add to the intrigue, Mojon was married to the daughter of Aimé Petremand, a known dial maker who signed his dials on the rear with either an AP or the initial A attached to his full surname, with the business continued after his death in 1843 by his widow Elizabeth Sandoz, being Mojon's mother-in-law. Drocourt serial number 2 being signed in this way.

I had now unearthed the identity of the four main dial producers to Jacot and Drocourt, amongst others.



PLATFORM ESCAPEMENTS



3543: H.L. with no Drocourt mark; unusual at this period as they tended to use the earlier style angled bridge



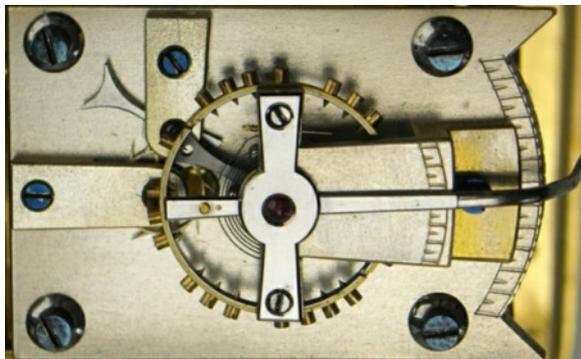
9562: Drocourt relatively early Standard platform with a slim balance cock as was standard across a number of makers at this period



15419: Drocourt with *Fast/Slow* engraved as also sometimes seen on the earlier Jacot clocks



15734: Drocourt for Martin with a club-tooth escape wheel as favoured by Martin for clocks supplied to them for retail as seen by Jacot



16493: Drocourt angled with wider balance cock



19008: Grande-Sonnerie Moonphase

A SELECTION OF *ARROW* AND *HANDS* MARKINGS FROM BACK-PLATES



3543



5123 H.L. For Drocourt



7441



9562



11404



19008



21344



21421



29756



36279

THE H.L. & DROCOURT MARKS



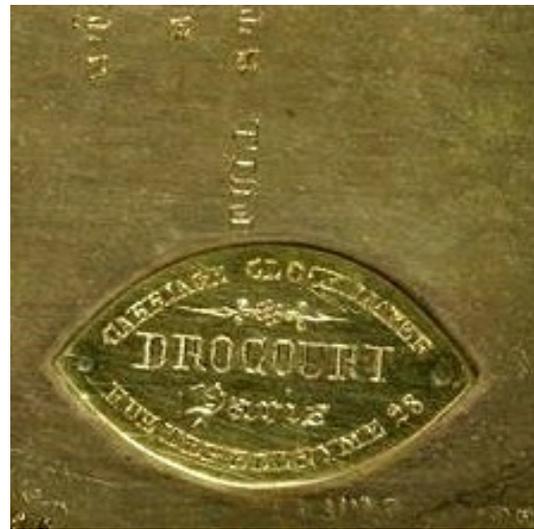
The H.L. mark as seen on the front-plate of the early clocks



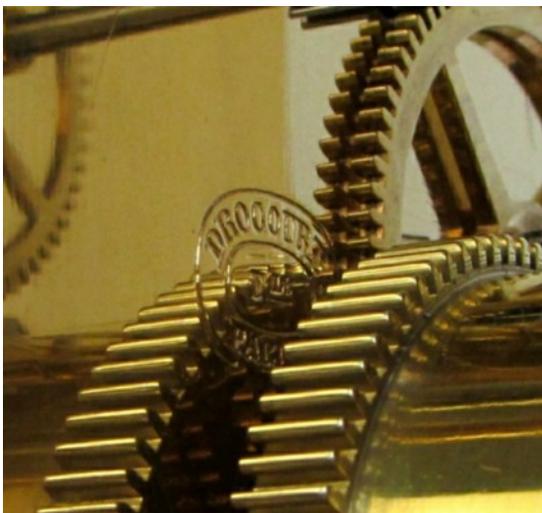
The oval embossed *DC & Clock* backplate



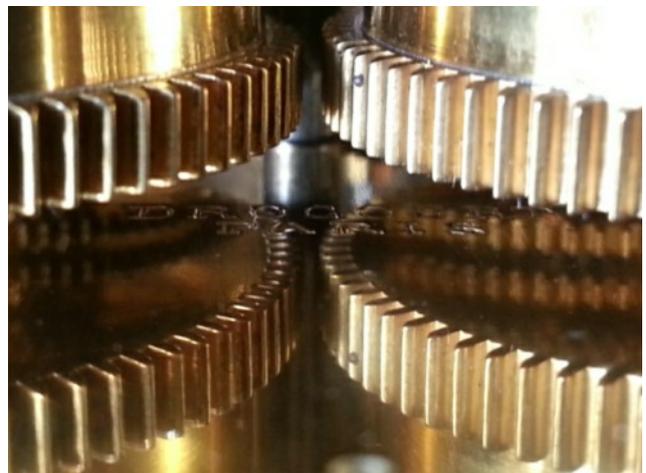
The Drocourt, Paris oval as sometimes embossed on the underside of the case



An uncommon mark, sometimes seen on the underside of the base



The Drocourt, Paris oval being the most common mark seen between the plates



Drocourt, Paris written in full as seen on the last of the Drocourt clocks

See also 18284 and 34671 for examples of the Drocourt name and address placed on the underside of the base. The latter also shows the later *stamped* trademark on the backplate as opposed to the *embossed* as was originally used and shown here.

THE EXPOSITIONS



The Jury de la Classe 96, Horlogerie, at the Paris Exposition Universelle 1900 including Alfred Drocourt

Paris: 1855 Honourable mention

Paris: 1867 bronze; 1878 silver ; 1889 Gold & 1900 Hors Concours

Bescancon 1860 bronze

London 1862; Pierre Drocourt: Honourable Mention in class XI for *Economy and fair workmanship in travelling timepieces*



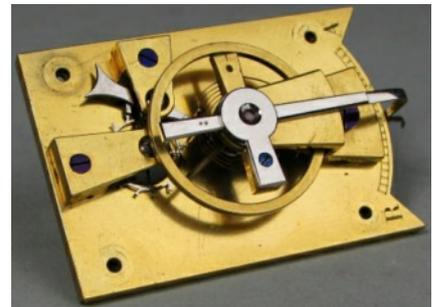
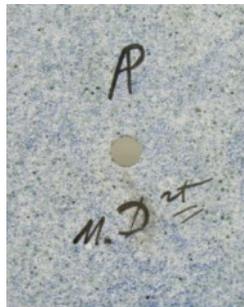
Part of the Horlogerie section at the 1900 Paris Exposition

2: THE EARLIEST RECORDED DROCOURT CARRIAGE CLOCK



Serial No: 2
Movement Number: None
Case: Cast brass with raised decoration
Movement: Strike & repeat on a bell, with alarm
Frontplate stamped: None
Wheel crossings: Straight
Barrel bridge angle: Full curved in early Henri Jacot style.
Platform: Angled two-part bridge with club-tooth and a plain brass balance
Dial: Dots to the five minutes with black Roman numerals
Dial rear: AP for Aime Petremand, but most likely his widow and son-in-law Adolphe Mojon; M. Drt for Monsieur Drocourt
Hands: Moon
Backplate stamped: Serial number
Regulation script to top of backplate: None
Holding screws: Single

A most interesting find, and one that I acquired after the exhibition but is shown here for historical purposes. The movement to this clock is almost identical to Jacot period II examples made circa 1850 and beyond, which concurs with the year, 1855, that Pierre Drocourt first advertised as a maker of *pendules de voyages*. That he obtained his first *blancs roulants* from this source adds to the theory that the Jacot and Drocourt families knew each other well and also ties in with Drocourt having lived in the same house, Saintonge 8, as Louis Baveux, who was most likely now either partner or manager of the Henri Jacot workshops in Saint-Nicolas-d'Aliermont at this time.



1311: EARLY PRE-H.L. MOVEMENT CAST CARRIAGE CLOCK



The owner of Drocourt number 1311, a Russian collector, has sent me a selection of images of his example and it is obviously a near-identical model to number 2. The same casting to the case, the same style of platform escapement with a club-tooth wheel and a plain flat brass balance, amongst other features. Obviously a slightly later model and now stamped on the backplate with the Drocourt oval trademark that was later used within the plates, having been superseded by the 'D.C. with clock' mark.

3505: H.L. ENGRAVED GORGE

Serial No: 3505

Movement Number: 10192

Case: Gorge, fully engraved with masked dial

Movement: Strike & repeat on a bell Frontplate stamped: H.L.

Wheel crossings: Curved

Barrel bridge angle: Shallow

Platform: Angled two-part bridge: numbered 503

Dial: Dots to the five minutes with black Roman numerals

Dial rear: Signed AM for Adolphe Mojon

Hands: Moon

Backplate stamped: Serial number

Regulation script to top of backplate: Slow/Fast

Holding screws: Single

The engraving is typical of H.L. clocks at this period, with flowing c-scroll and floral decoration. Although at first appearance this style of case and decoration seems identical to those being produced by Henri Jacot at this time, there are some marked differences. The handle isn't as straight as a Jacot; the edges of the case feet stop and don't come across the base of the case; the engraving style is different and the lower and upper mouldings to the case have a quite different form.

For a further discussion & images on this subject see the Henri Jacot catalogue as produced for my Jacot Exhibition in 2013.



3543: EARL OF DERBY

Serial No: 3543

Movement Number: 10241

Case: Gorge, fully engraved with shuttered back door and malachite side panels

Movement: Strike & repeat on a bell (See frontplate page for image); backplate signed for the retailer *Howell James & Co.*

Frontplate stamped: H.L.

Wheel crossings: Curved

Barrel bridge angle: Shallow

Platform: Crescent (See platform page for image)

Dial: Dots to the five minutes with black Roman numerals

Dial rear: Signed AM for Adolphe Mojon

Hands: Moon

Backplate stamped: Serial number; *Howell James & Co*

Regulation script to top of backplate: Slow/Fast Holding

screws: Single

This clock has all the features expected of an H.L. clock, including the curved crossing outs to the wheel work and a dial by Mojon, but is fitted with the original crescent shaped bridge to the platform escapement when at this date most had the angled two-part bridge.

It has plain dial-plate pillars as seen on H.L. clocks at this time, but which begin to change with the making of movements for Drocourt.

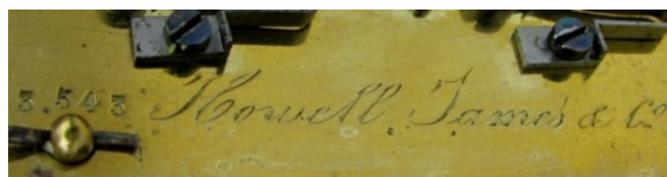
Howell James & Co are recorded with this name from 1838 until 1884.

Two further near-identical examples have come to light, both by H.L. and with malachite panels:

2443: in a private collection in America.

3508: from the Angelis Collection sold by Christies in 1998.





This clock was purchased in 1994 from an established Clifton jeweller, Grey-Harris, who were selling, on behalf of a client, a number of items to raise funds for tax purposes with this clock said to have come from the estate of Edward Stanley, the 14th Earl of Derby, Prime Minister of Great Britain three times, with the family home being Knowsley House in Lancashire. He was born on the 29th of March, 1799 and succeeded to the Earldom in 1851. He first became Prime Minister from February 1852 until December of that year; then from February 1858 until June 1859 and finally from June 1866 until February 1868. He is often stated as the founder of modern Conservatism in Britain with Benjamin Disraeli quoted as stating of the Earl "*He abolished slavery, he educated Ireland, he reformed Parliament*". The Earl died on the 23rd of October, 1869.

Another almost identical clock, but without the malachite panels, was also available for sale and it was believed that these two were presented to the Earl and his wife, Emma Caroline Bootle-Wilbraham, whom he had married in 1825.



Edward Stanley, 14th Earl of Derby

Image: *The Granger Collection, New York*

5063: GORGE WITH STAND



Serial No: 5063
Movement Number: 11854
Case: Gorge on a typical Drocourt stand
Movement: Strike/repeat on a gong, with alarm
Frontplate stamped: H.L.
Platform: Angled two-part bridge
Wheel crossings: Curved
Barrel bridge angle: Shallow
Dial: Dots to the five minutes with black Roman numerals
Rear of dial: AM for Adolphe Mojon
Hands: Moon
Backplate stamped: Serial number; No Drocourt stamp
Regulation script to top of backplate: Slow/Fast
Holding screws: Single
Gong block: Plain

Stamped for Drocourt between the plates, this is an example of a clock made before the last of the H.L. non-Drocourt pieces, such as 5206, the following exhibit.

An engraved example courtesy of Antiquorum, Geneva

Not exhibited



5206: H.L. TIMEPIECE CORNICHE

Serial No: 5206

Movement Number: 11983

Case: Corniche

Movement: Timepiece

Frontplate stamped: H.L.

Wheel crossings: Curved

Platform: Angled two-part bridge; numbered FR P 6212

Dial: Dots to the five minutes with black Roman numerals

Rear of dial: Signed AM for Adolphe Mojon

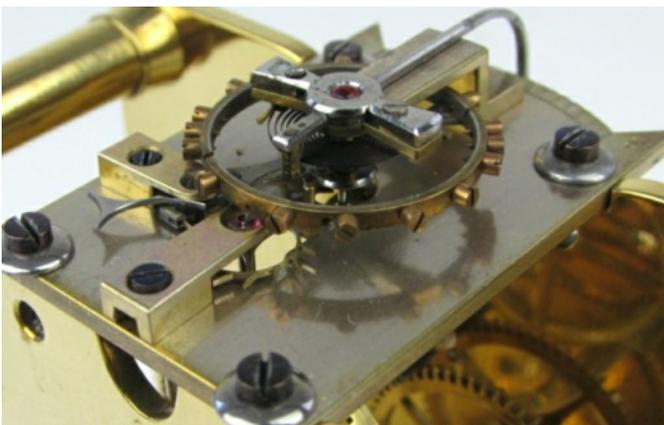
Hands: Moon

Backplate stamped: Serial number; No Drocourt stamp

Regulation script to top of backplate: Slow/Fast Holding

screws: Single

An H.L. piece made without collaboration with Drocourt, but with a case style almost identical to those used later by Drocourt alone.



6115: H.L. FOR DROCOURT

Serial No: 6115
Movement Number: 12768
Case: One-piece
Movement: Strike/repeat on a bell; with alarm
Frontplate stamped: H.L.
Wheel crossings: Curved
Barrel bridge: Shallow
Platform: Angled two-part bridge
Dial: Dots to the five minutes with black Roman numerals
Rear of dial: AM for Adolphe Mojon with clock type, *Simplette petite*
Hands: Moon
Backplate stamped: Serial number; No Drocourt stamp
Regulation script to top of backplate: Slow/Fast Holding screws: Single

One of the earliest recorded carriage clocks made for Drocourt with an H.L. stamp; with no Drocourt trademark on the backplate but the oval mark between the plates. Also recorded being Drocourt numbers 4984 and 5123.



6269: H.L. FOR DROCOURT: A GIANT WITH ENGRAVED CASE

Serial No: 6296

Movement Number: 13034

Case: Giant corniche engraved

Movement: Strike/repeat on a gong

Frontplate stamped: H.L.

Wheel crossings: Curved

Barrel bridge: Shallow

Platform: Crescent; Large oversized numbered FR 6737

Dial: Dots to the five minutes with black Roman numerals; outer five minute Arabic numerals. Signed: D.C. Rait & Sons, Paris

Rear of dial: AM for Adolphe Mojon with further instructions

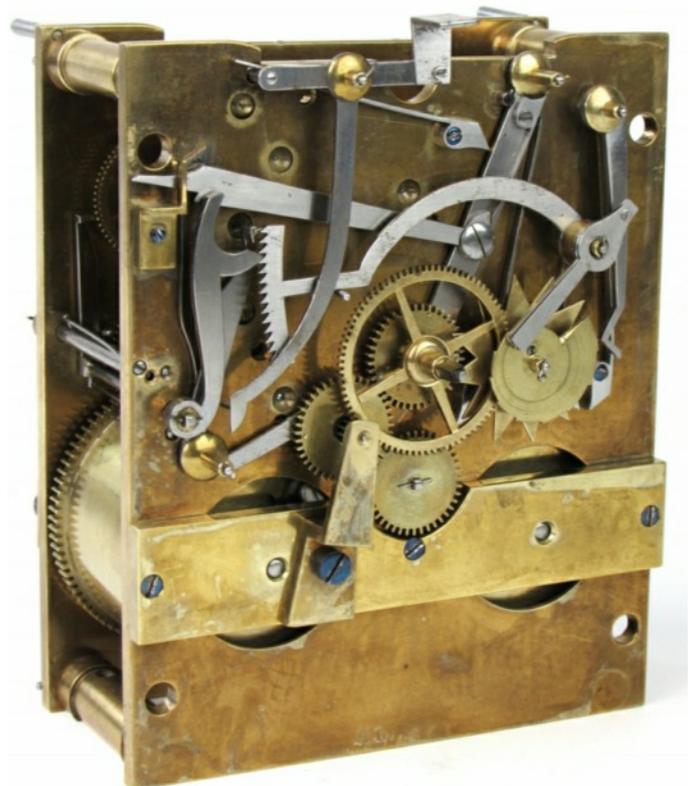
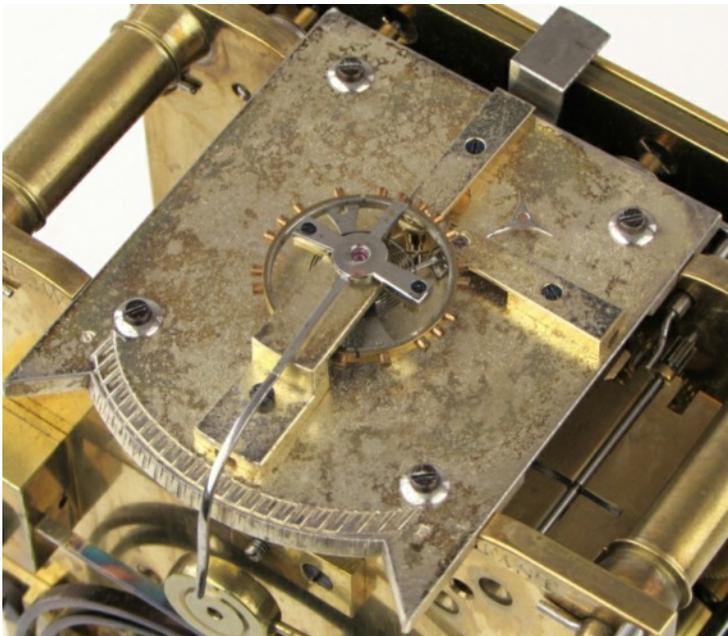
Hands: Spade

Backplate stamped: Serial number; Drocourt stamp

Regulation script to top of backplate: Slow/Fast

Holding screws: Single

As seen with other giant carriage clocks by Drocourt, the hands are of spade design at a period when normal sized clocks were using the moon design.

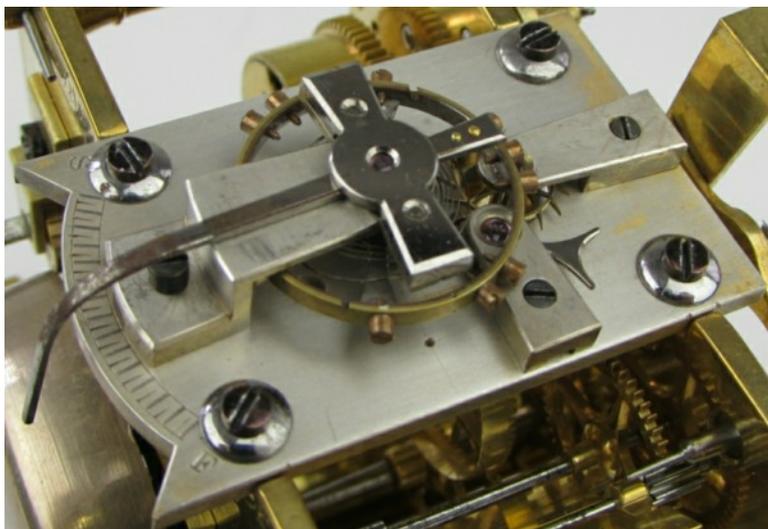


7441: H.L. FOR DROCOURT



Serial No: 7441
Movement Number: 14840
Case: Corniche engraved with an engraved mask to the dial
Movement: Strike/repeat on a bell; with alarm
Frontplate stamped: H.L.
Wheel crossings: Curved
Barrel bridge: Shallow
Platform: Angled two-part bridge
Dial: Dots to the five minutes with black Roman numerals and outer Arabic five-minute markings
Rear of dial: AM for Adolphe Mojon
Hands: Moon
Backplate stamped: Serial number; Drocourt stamp
Regulation script to top of backplate: Slow/Fast
Holding screws: Single

One of the earliest recorded carriage clocks made for Drocourt with an H.L. stamp and the Drocourt trademark on the backplate. It is also noted that the dial plate pillars are no longer plain, as most by H.L. are fitted with prior to this date, but now have a tapered shoulder with a raised ring, matching that on the movement pillars.



9562: ENGRAVED CANNELÉE WITH PORCELAIN PANELS

Serial No: 9562

Movement Number: 17144 for H.L. and 165

Case: Cannelée engraved with porcelain panels

Movement: Strike/repeat on a gong

Frontplate stamped: H.L.

Wheel crossings: Curved

Barrel bridge: Shallow

Platform: Angled two-part bridge

Dial: Dots to the five minutes with black Roman numerals; signed for the retailer *Edward & Sons, Glasgow*

Rear of dial: Lemière, signed in ink

Hands: Spade

Backplate stamped: Serial number; Drocourt stamp

Regulation script to top of backplate: Slow/Fast

Holding screws: Single

Gong block: Plain

Stamped to the underside of the base, over the screw hole for the bottom plate, with the Drocourt oval trademark.



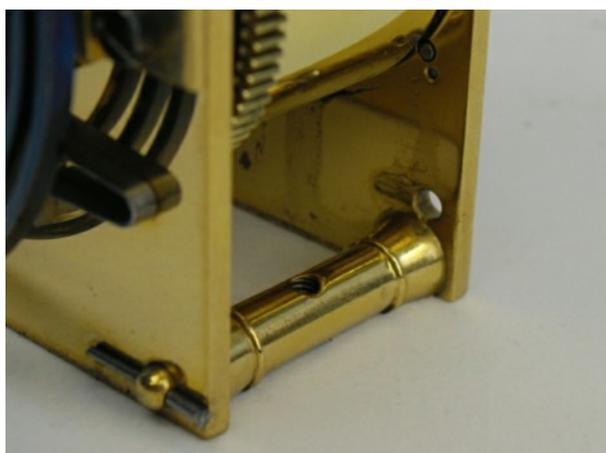
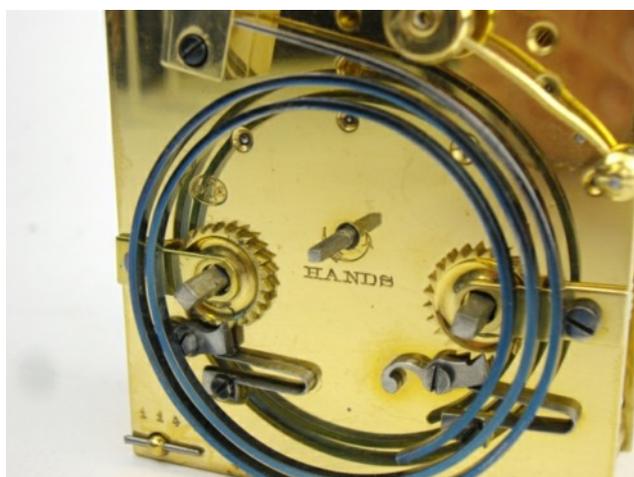
11404: CANNELÉE WITH STAMPED BASE

Serial No: 11404
Movement Number: No *blanc* number
Case: Cannelée
Movement: Strike/repeat on a gong
Wheel crossings: Straight
Barrel bridge angle: Shallow
Platform: Angled two-part bridge
Dial: Diamond & dots to the five minutes with black Roman numerals
Rear of dial: Serial number
Hands: Moon
Backplate stamped: Serial number; Drocourt stamp
Regulation script to top of backplate: Slow/Fast
Holding screws: Single
Gong block: F.D

Stamped to the underside of the base, over the screw hole for the bottom plate, with the Drocourt oval trademark as in the previous H.L. supplied clock; 9562.

With brass screws to hold the base to the pillars on the underside as opposed to the more normal steel. This has also been seen on an anonymous grande-sonnerie carriage clock with a Mojon dial.

This is the first clock in the exhibition not to have the H.L. stamp to the frontplate, with some changes apparent; the wheel crossings are now straight and not curved, there is no *blanc roulant* number to the plates, the gong block is now stamped F.D, therefore being from a different supplier and the dial has *diamonds & dots* to the outer aspect, not just dots. There are some H.L. traits still showing; mainly the regulation index on the backplate still engraved in full *Slow/Fast* and the frontplate layout near-identical with the H.L. style of shallow angle to the barrel bridge, all of which indicate that the plates are old H.L. stock, but unmarked as such.



1 1599: ENGRAVED GORGE WITH PORCELAIN PANELS

Serial No: 11599

Movement Number: No *blanc* number

Case: Gorge engraved with porcelain panels

Movement: Strike/repeat on a gong

Wheel crossings: Straight

Barrel bridge angle: Shallow

Platform: Angled two-part bridge

Dial: Diamond & dots to the five minutes with black Roman numerals

Rear of dial: Unknown

Hands: Spade

Backplate stamped: Serial number; Drocourt stamp

Regulation script to top of backplate: Slow/Fast

Holding screws: single

Gong block: F.D

A further movement that would indicate old H.L. stock being used with the full *Slow/Fast* regulation and shallow barrel bridge, but with Drocourt straight crossing-out to the wheelwork and diamond & dot markings to the outer aspect of the dial.



13344: TIMEPIECE CORNICHE

Serial No: 13344

Movement Number: No *blanc* number

Case: Corniche

Movement: Timepiece

Wheel crossings: Straight

Platform: Angled two-part bridge

Dial: Diamond & dots to the five minutes with black Roman numerals

Rear of dial: Unknown

Hands: Moon

Backplate stamped: Serial number; Drocourt stamp

Regulation script to top of backplate: Slow/Fast

Holding screws: Single

Although still retaining the *Fast/Slow* regulation index it is in a slightly different punch to those seen on H.L. movements, as is the *Hands* punch, although the case maker is obviously the same supplier as those used previously and with no *blanc roulant* number is still therefore prior to Drocourt's movement numbering system.



13749: GORGE CASED STRIKING ON A BELL



Serial No: 13749

Movement Number: No *blanc* number

Case: Gorge

Movement: Strike/repeat on a bell

Wheel crossings: Straight

Barrel bridge angle: Shallow

Platform: Angled two-part bridge, numbered 34

Dial: Diamond & dots with black Roman numerals and Arabic five-minute outer markings

Rear of dial: Unknown

Hands: Moon

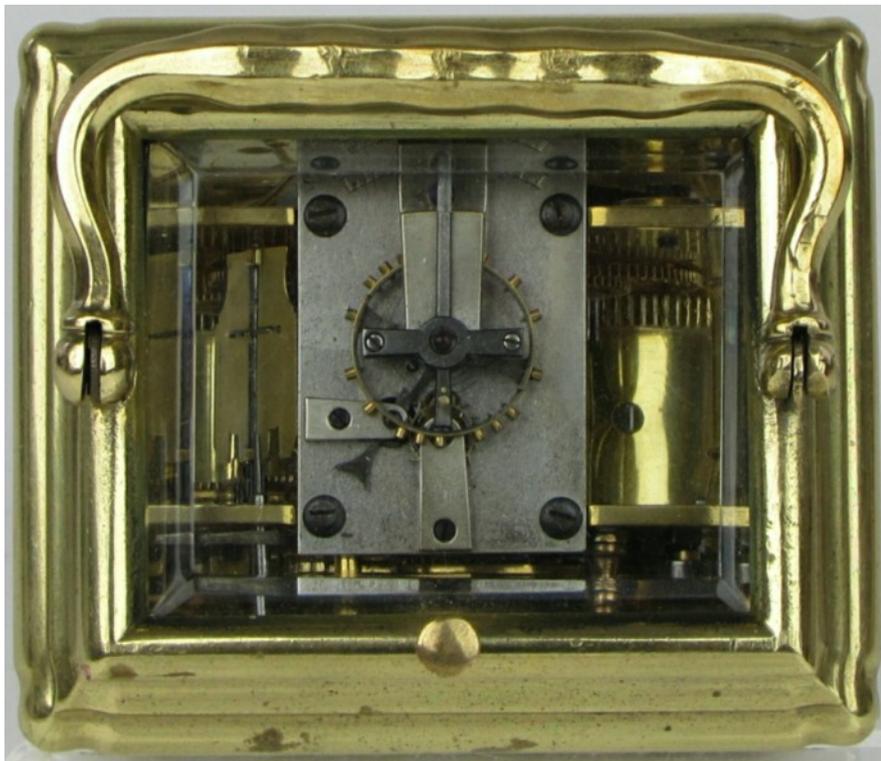
Backplate stamped: Serial number; Drocourt stamp.

Signed for the retailer: *Payne & Co, 163 New Bond Street, London*

Regulation script to top of backplate: *S/F*

Holding screws: Single

The first movement to change from the *Slow/Fast* regulation index to the *S/F* that was to stay throughout the rest of Drocourt production, but still with the H.L. shallow bridge to the going barrel.



14041: NICKEL PLATED CANNELÉE

Serial No: 14041

Movement Number: No *blanc* number

Case: Cannelée; nickel plated

Movement: Strike/repeat on a gong

Wheel crossings: Straight

Barrel bridge angle: Shallow

Platform: Angled two-part bridge

Dial: Diamond & dots to the five minutes with black Roman numerals

Rear of dial: Serial number; No. 4

Hands: Moon

Backplate stamped: Serial number; Drocourt stamp

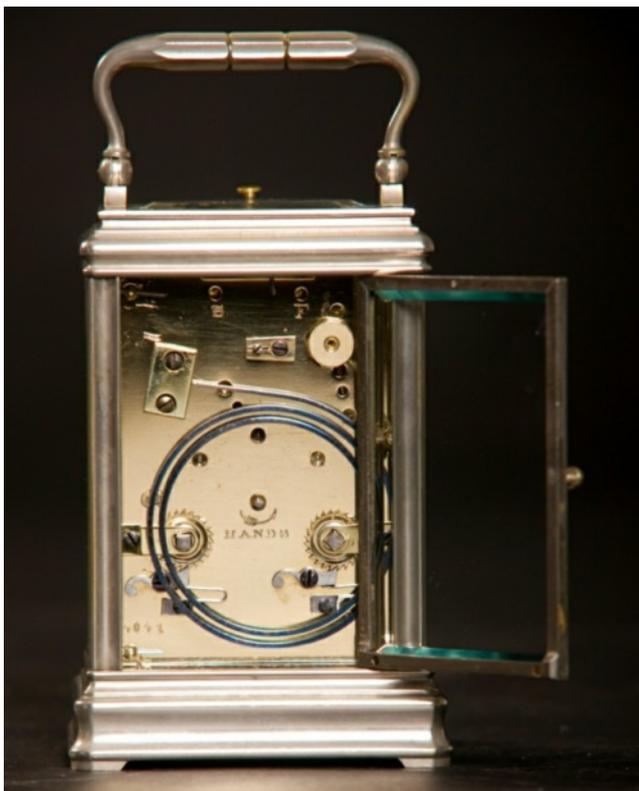
Regulation script to top of backplate: S/F

Holding screws: Single

Gong block: F.D

With numbered key

Unusually, although stamped with the Drocourt trademark to the backplate, there is no oval trademark or Drocourt name between the plates.



14290: ENGRAVED CORNICHE

Serial No: 14290

Movement Number: 657

Case: Corniche fully engraved with masked dial

Movement: Strike/repeat on a gong, with alarm Platform:

Angled two-part bridge engraved in script
'Fast/Slow'

Wheel crossings: Straight

Barrel bridge angle: Steep

Dial: Diamond & dots to the five minutes with black
Roman numerals

Rear of dial: Unknown

Hands: Moon

Backplate stamped: Serial number; Drocourt stamp

Regulation script to top of backplate: S/F

Holding screws: Single

Gong block: F.D

The first clock in the exhibition to have the steep bridge to the going barrel, along all the other attributes of a Dro-court rather than H.L. or transitional movement, and the first shown to have a *blanc roulant* number of the new regime being 657. The following exhibit, 14294, has no *blanc roulant* number which shows how the movements may well have been stock-piled.



14294: FOR GROHE, WIGMORE STREET, LONDON



Serial No: 14294

Movement Number: No *blanc roulant* number

Case: Corniche fully engraved with masked dial

Movement: Strike/repeat on a gong

Platform: Angled two-part bridge

Wheel crossings: Straight

Barrel bridge angle: Steep

Dial: Diamond & dots to the five minutes with black Roman numerals

Signed for the retailer: *Grohe, Pennington & Typke Successors, Wigmore Street, London*

Rear of dial: Unknown

Hands: Moon

Backplate stamped: Serial number; Drocourt stamp

Regulation script to top of backplate: S/F

Holding screws: Single

Gong block: F.D

As with other Drocourt clocks retailed by Grohe, this has the Grohe serial number stamped to the edge of the bottom of the base: 4159.

Drocourt serial number 14304 has the number 4160 to the base, being the next clock to be made for Grohe and signed for them on the dial.

This is the last clock in this sequence as shown in the exhibition to have the single screws holding the movement pillars onto the base of the case before the use of two for each pillar became the norm.



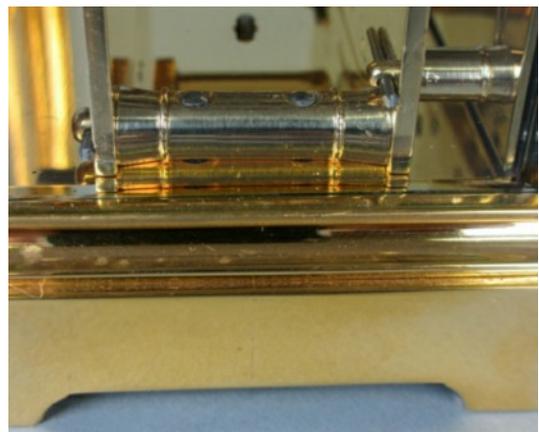
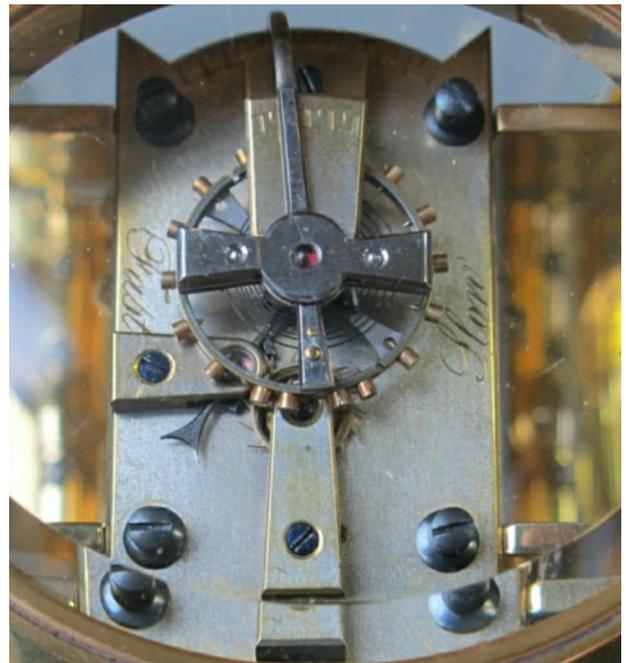
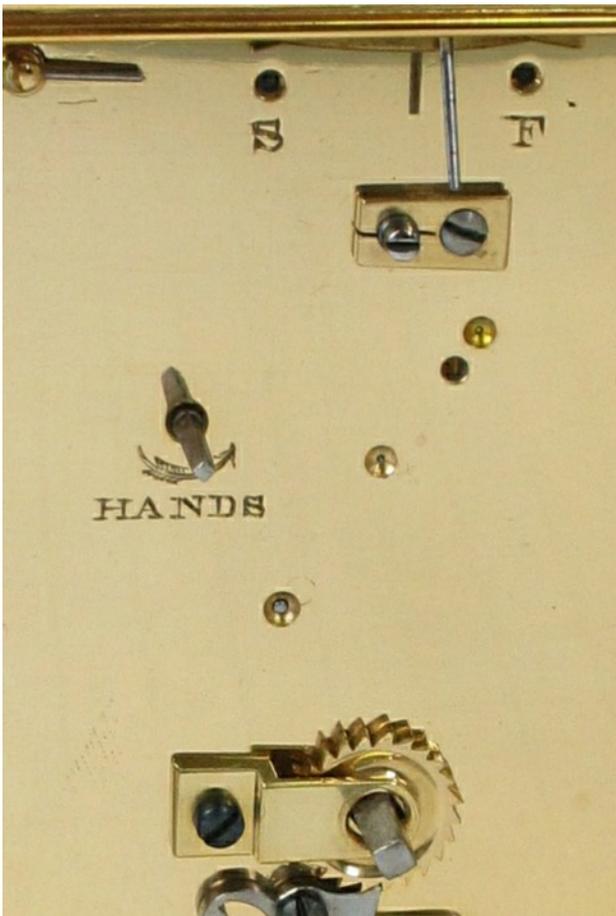
15419: FROM THE DROCOURT WORKSHOPS



Serial No: 15419
Movement Number: 1448
Case: Corniche Movement:
Timepiece
Platform: Angled two-part bridge engraved 'Slow/Fast'
Wheel crossings: Straight
Dial: Diamond & dots to the five minutes with black Roman numerals
Rear of dial: Serial number
Hands: Moon
Backplate stamped: Serial number
Regulation script to top of backplate: S/F
Holding screws: Double

The first clock in the exhibition to have double screws to each lower movement pillar rather than a single screw as had been used previously.

Although without any mark on this clock, it is obvious from all the features that it came from the same workshop as the Drocourt clocks and is finished in an identical style and can therefore be safely attributed to them.



15560: FOR GROHE, WIGMORE STREET, LONDON

Serial No: 15560
Movement Number: 1412
Case: Corniche
Movement: Strike on a gong
Platform: Angled two-part bridge
Wheel crossings: Straight
Barrel bridge angle: Steep
Dial: Diamond & dots to the five minutes with black Roman numerals
Rear of dial: Serial number and further lettering as 14041
Hands: Fleur-de-Lys
Backplate stamped: Serial number; Drocourt stamp
Regulation script to top of backplate: S/F
Holding screws: Double
Gong block: F.D

Obviously a clock retailed by Grohe, with their number punched on to the edge of the bottom of the case, 4214, as seen on all other Grohe retailed pieces. There are signs of a name on the dial, although indecipherable.



15723: A PILLARED CLOCK IN THE ENGLISH STYLE



Serial No: 15723

Movement Number: 1550

Case: Pillared and in the English style

Platform: Angled two-part bridge

Movement: Strike/repeat on a gong

Dial: Diamond & dots to the five minutes with black Roman numerals and Arabic outer numerals; with a matt gilt mask

Wheel crossings: Straight

Barrel bridge angle: Steep

Rear of dial: 15723, Sparrow Bro

Hands: Moon

Backplate stamped: Serial number; Drocourt mark

Regulation script to top of backplate: S/F (small)

Holding screws: Double

Gong block: F.D

A case very much in the English style, and similar in look to that used on the giant grande-sonnerie, serial number 17468. The rear of the dial is inscribed with the name of the retailer of the final piece, Sparrow Bros, who were manufacturing and retail jewellers recorded in London in the mid-Victorian period. They were known designers of jewellery with a design for drop earrings registered in March 1857 and another in 1859 when their address was given as 11, New North Street, Red Lion Square, London.



15734: ONE-PIECE FOR T. MARTIN, LONDON

Serial No: 15734

Movement Number: 1274

Case: One-piece

Movement: Strike/repeat on a gong

Platform: Crescent with club-tooth wheel; numbered 379

Wheel crossings: Straight & curved

Barrel bridge angle: Steep

Dial: Diamond & dots to the five minutes with black Roman numerals. Signed for the retailer *T. Martin, 225 Regent St. London*

Rear of dial: Serial number and further lettering as 14041

Hands: Moon

Backplate stamped: Serial number; Drocourt stamp

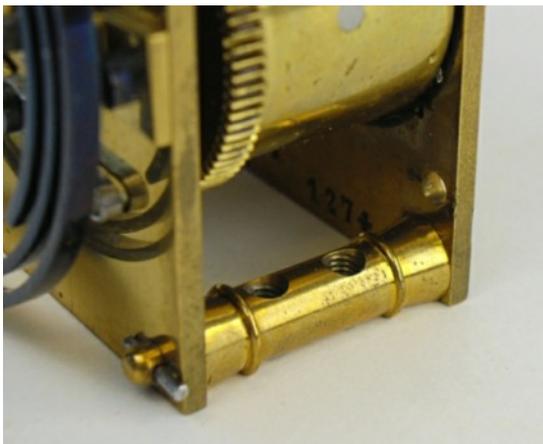
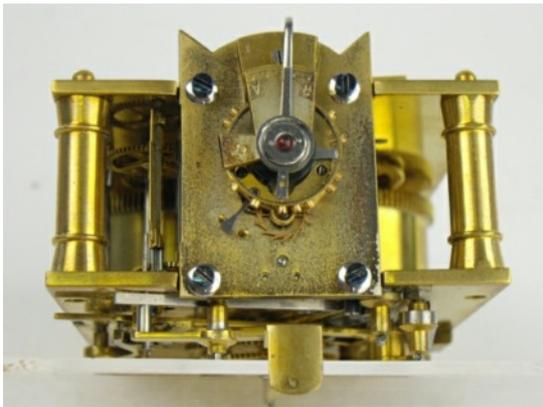
Regulation script to top of backplate: S/F

Holding screws: Double

Gong block: F.D

An interesting movement; with a mixture of curved & straight crossing out to the wheelwork, being H.L. (curved) and Drocourt (straight). The *blanc roulant* number is also earlier than expected, and therefore slightly out of sequence, which may account for the mixed styles. Was this held back so that Martin could make their own changes, mainly to the platform?

As seen with other clocks retailed by T. Martin in London, both by Drocourt and Jacot, this example has a slightly different escapement than the norm from which we can conclude that they made subtle changes before retailing clocks supplied to them. It appears they preferred the Swiss club-tooth to the usual supplied by Drocourt & Jacot, which was with a pointed-tooth.



16943: GROHE, SHOWING THEIR BASE STAMP

Serial No: 16943

Movement Number: 2724

Case: Corniche

Movement: Strike/repeat on a gong

Platform: Angled two-part bridge

Wheel crossings: Straight

Barrel bridge angle: Steep

Dial: Diamond & dots to the five minutes with black Roman numerals. Signed for the retailer: *Grohe, Pennington & Typke successors, Wigmore Street, London. 4267*

Rear of dial: Serial number

Hands: Moon

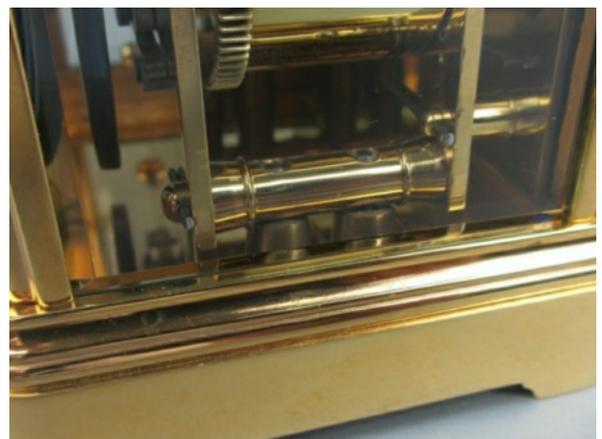
Backplate stamped: Serial number; Drocourt stamp

Regulation script to top of backplate: S/F

Holding screws: Double

Gong block: F.D

As with other Drocourt clocks retailed by Grohe, this has the Grohe number stamped to the edge of the bottom of the base: 4267. There is also a label to the rear of the dial having this number in ink.



17167: CANNELÉE WITH TRACES OF NICKEL PLATING

Serial No: 17167

Movement Number: 2877

Case: Cannelée; previously nickel plated

Movement: Strike/repeat on a gong

Platform: Angled two-part bridge

Wheel crossings: Straight

Barrel bridge angle: Steep

Dial: Diamond & dots to the five minutes with black Roman numerals. Signed for the retailer: *E. White, Paris*

Rear of dial: Unknown

Hands: Moon

Backplate stamped: Serial number; Drocourt stamp

Regulation script to top of backplate: S/F

Holding screws: Double

Gong block: F.D

On inspecting the case it is obvious that it was originally nickel plated, as 14041, with traces to the base & to the original numbered key.



17468: A GIANT GRANDE-SONNERIE



Serial No: 17468

Movement Number: No *blanc* number Case:

Giant pillared with original gilding

Movement: Grande-sonnerie on two gongs

Platform: Crescent; large; straight line

Wheel crossings: Straight

Barrel bridge angle: Shallow

Dial: Silvered and finely engraved

Rear of dial: Unknown

Hands: Spade

Backplate stamped: Serial number; Drocourt stamp

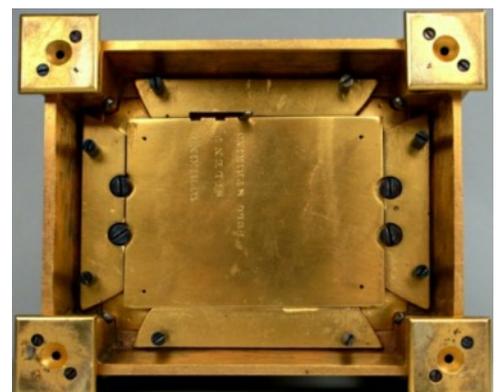
Regulation script to top of backplate: S/F Holding

screws: Double

Gong block: F.D

With numbered box and key

Purchased by the previous owner from Maurice Pitcher, renowned carriage clock dealer and son of the esteemed clock importer Ernest Pitcher, in 1968 for £1,600.00



17927: ONE-PIECE FOR CHARLES VOISON

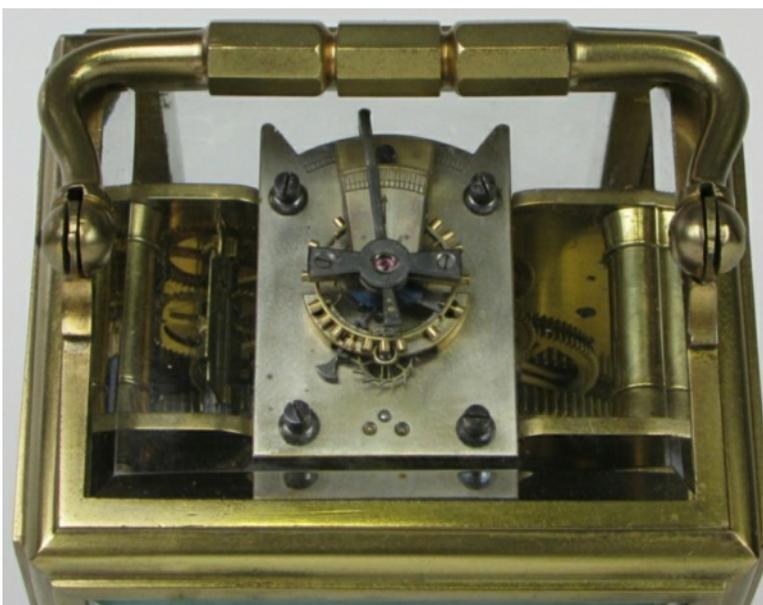


Serial No: 17927
Movement Number: 4939
Case: One-piece
Movement: Strike on a gong
Platform: Crescent; numbered 10 70
Wheel crossings: Straight
Barrel bridge angle: Steep
Dial: Diamond & dots to the five minutes with black Roman numerals
Dial signed: *Payne, 163 New Bond Street, London*
Rear of dial: Serial number
Hands: Spade
Backplate stamped: Serial number; Drocourt stamp; signed *Payne, 163 New Bond Street, London*. With the initials C.V for Charles Valogne.
Regulation script to top of backplate: S/F
Holding screws: Single

The movement has reverted to being held by a single screw to each lower movement pillar.

The *blanc roulant* serial number appears somewhat out of sequence and would be expected to fall at *movement* serial number circa 20,000. Is this possibly a mistake on the bench? Although the following exhibit, 18284, is also out of sequence with the main run and more in line with this clock as it has a *blanc roulant* number 5003; whilst 18520 reverts to the original sequence with *roulant* number 3587.

Note: Allix & Bonnert give C.V. as being Charles Voison, but my research indicates it is the supplier Charles Valogne, a friend of Alfred Drocourt's from London who was associated with the Dent firm and who also supplied clocks from Jacot.



18284: A RARE GRANDE & HALF-SONNERIE WITH SIGNED DIAL AND PLAQUE



Serial No: 18284

Movement Number: 5003

Case: Fluted angled pillars; two-tone gilded and silvered.

Movement: Grande-sonnerie or half-sonnerie on two gongs; with subsidiary alarm.

Platform: Crescent; as the other grande-sonnerie pillared numbered 19008

Wheel crossings: Straight

Dial: Diamond & dots to the five minutes with black Roman numerals and Arabic outer five-minute markings

Rear of dial: Serial number

Hands: Spade

Backplate stamped: Serial number; Drocourt stamp

Regulation script to top of backplate: S/F

Holding screws: Single

Gong block: F.D

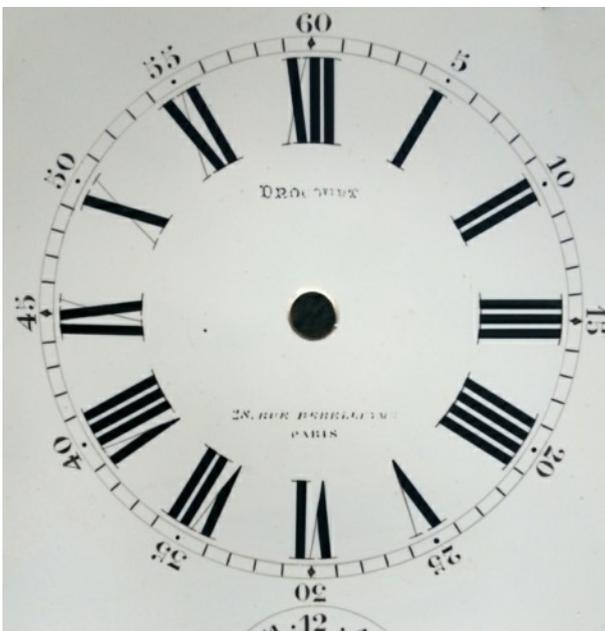
The *blanc roulant* serial number is slightly out of sequence, but corresponds with the previous exhibit. This may suggest a different maker, especially when it is noted that the under-dial work is in steel, rather as Baveux used for their Jacot complicated movements, whereas the norm for Drocourt was this to be all in brass; or possibly a case of buying movements in bulk and using them as needed?

Rather as with 19008, the other pillared case grande-sonnerie in the exhibition, the use of a crescent bridge platform is out of keeping with this period, also suggesting a movement finished elsewhere.

This clock sees the start of a different run of movement style with the bottom movement pillars now far thicker than the top by 2mm, a feature that remains until near the end of production. The following exhibit, 18520, doesn't have this feature, but the *blanc roulant* number on that latter piece, 3587, would suggest that the movement was made slightly earlier than the clock serial number has us believe.

This is an unusual example in that it has the full address engraved on a plaque and attached to the underside of the case. It is also fairly rare to find a dial signed for Drocourt, with his address thereon.

This is the only carriage clock by either Jacot or Drocourt that I have seen with both *grande and half-sonnerie* strike available; half-sonnerie clocks normally strike as-such *instead* of *grande-sonnerie*, making this a rare example.



18520: FIVE PORCELAIN PANELS

Serial No: 18520
Movement Number: 3587
Case: Corniche with five porcelain 'blue & white' floral panels
Panels signed: Jep 4
Movement: Strike/repeat on a gong
Platform: Crescent
Wheel crossings: Straight
Barrel bridge angle: Steep
Dial: Diamond & dots to the five minutes with black Roman numerals
Rear of dial: JeP 4
Hands: Spade
Backplate stamped: Serial number; Drocourt stamp
Regulation script to top of backplate: S/F
Holding screws: Single
Gong block: Plain



19008: GRANDE-SONNERIE WITH MOONPHASE AND CALENDAR



Serial No: 19008

Movement Number: 12674

Case: Fluted angled pillars

Movement: Grande-sonnerie on two gongs; with subsidiary alarm, day & date dials, and with moonphase aperture.

Signed on the backplate: Henri Capt, Geneve

Platform: Crescent; stamped 6 H.C. 84

Wheel crossings: Straight

Dial: Diamond & dots to the five minutes with black Roman numerals

Rear of dial: Serial number

Hands: Fleur-de-Lys

Backplate stamped: Serial number; Drocourt stamp

Regulation script to top of backplate: S/F

Holding screws: Single

Gong block: Plain

This clock was made in the mid-1800s and so the 6 84 on the platform may well be the date of manufacture: June 1884

The movement serial number is out of sequence; by a fairly large amount. The under-dial work is in steel and utilises a crescent bridge platform. There is no doubt that this movement and that in 18284 came from the same workshop and differentiate to a small degree to the norm used by Drocourt at this period.



20564: FOR GROHE, WIGMORE STREET, LONDON



Serial No: 20564
Movement Number: No *blanc* number
Case: Corniche
Movement: Timepiece
Platform: Angled two-part bridge Wheel crossings: Straight
Barrel bridge angle: Steep
Dial: Diamond & dots to the five minutes with black Roman numerals and outer Arabic five minute markings. Signed for the retailer: Grohe, H.W. Typke, Successor, Wigmore Street, London
Rear of dial: Serial number
Hands: Moon
Backplate stamped: Serial number; Drocourt stamp
Regulation script to top of backplate: S/F
Holding screws: Single

The first in the exhibition to have both the thicker lower movement pillar along with there being no spare hole in the dial plate for the fitting of an alarm if desired and which had been usual from the early H.L. period. These two practices coincided with each other and all movements fitted with the thicker lower pillar were without the alarm hole unless an actual alarm was fitted.

As with other Drocourt clocks retailed by Grohe, this has the Grohe number stamped to the edge of the bottom of the base: 4368. Unusually there is also no Drocourt trademark between the plates nor a *blanc roulant* number although clocks either side of this are numbered. That the hands arrow is still situated below the arbor, and not above as was the norm at this period, would also suggest a movement made in an earlier period and used later.



21344: A CANNELÉE MINIATURE TIMEPIECE



Serial No: 21344
Movement Number: 7753
Case: Cannelée miniature
Movement: Timepiece
Platform: Angled two-part bridge
Wheel crossings: Straight
Dial: Diamond & dots to the five minutes with black Roman numerals
Rear of dial: Serial number
Hands: Spade
Backplate stamped: Serial number; Drocourt stamp
Regulation script to top of backplate: S/F
Holding screws: Single



27024: A MINIATURE MOVEMENT



Serial No: 27024
Movement Number: 15228
Case: None
Movement: Timepiece
Dial: Dots to the five minutes, with Arabic numerals. Signed for the retailer: *Alfred Barker, 5 New Bond St, London*
Backplate: *Made in Paris Expressly for Alfred Barker, London*. Serial number; Drocourt trademark
Regulation script to top of backplate: S/F

A full size Corniche Drocourt is known also signed for Albert Barker in a similar fashion, numbered 26210 with a presentation date of 1897.



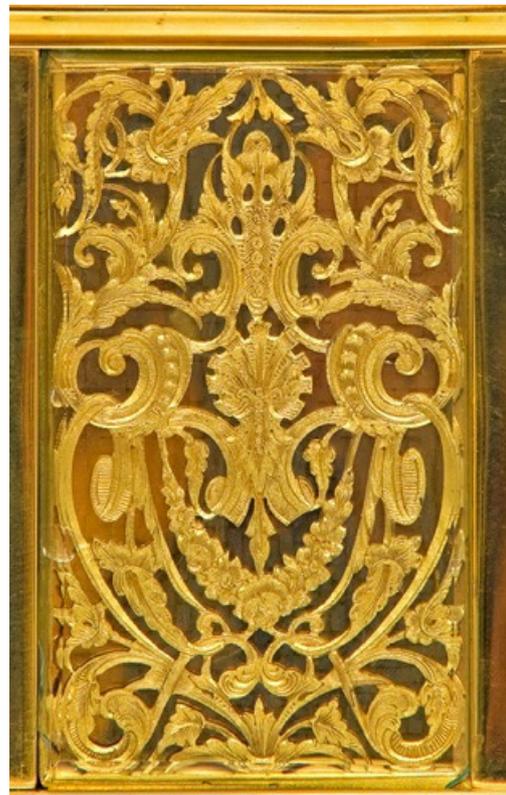
Placed in the catalogue out of sequence so as to compare it with the miniature shown above.

23026: ANGLAISE ATTRIBUTABLE TO DROCOURT



Serial No: 23026
Movement Number: 8546
Case: Anglaise with decorative pierced & engraved side panels
Movement: Strike/repeat on a gong
Platform: Crescent bridge
Wheel crossings: Straight
Barrel bridge angle: Steep
Dial: Diamonds and dots to the five minutes with black Roman numerals
Rear of dial: Serial number
Hands: Spade
Backplate stamped: Serial number
Regulation script to top of backplate: S/F
Holding screws: Single
Gong block: Plain

Although without any mark on this clock, it is obvious from all the features that it came from the same workshop as the signed Drocourt clocks and is finished in an identical style; as such it can be safely attributed to them, especially as the *blanc roulant* number matches the sequence as on the database. The hand setting arrow is the same as that stamped on 31202, not exhibited, a finely engraved gorge clock which is signed for Drocourt. This arrow style also appears on the other unsigned clocks shown in this catalogue; 23265 and 29756, adding further proof to their having been made by Drocourt.



23265: GORGE ATTRIBUTABLE TO DROCOURT

Serial No: 23265
Movement Number: 8774
Case: Gorge
Movement: Strike/repeat on a gong
Platform: Crescent bridge
Wheel crossings: Straight
Barrel bridge angle: Steep
Dial: Dots to the five minutes with black Roman numerals
Rear of dial: Serial number
Hands: Spade
Backplate stamped: Serial number
Regulation script to top of backplate: S/F
Holding screws: Single

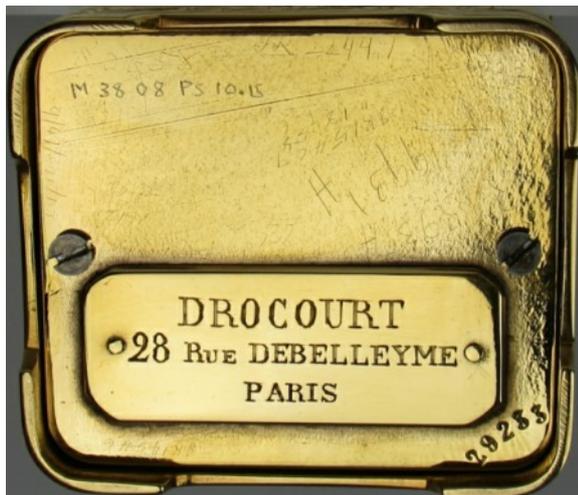
As with the previous exhibit, although without any mark on this clock, it is obvious from all the features that it came from the same workshop as the Drocourt clocks and is finished in an identical style and can therefore be safely attributed to them, especially as the *blanc roulant* number matches the sequence as on the database.



29233: ENGRAVED MINIATURE WITH SIGNED PLATE

Serial No: 29233
Movement Number: 13527
Case: Corniche engraved
Movement: Timepiece
Platform: Semi: stamped Y3
Wheel crossings: Straight
Barrel bridge angle: Steep
Dial: Diamonds & Dots to the five minutes
Rear of dial: Serial number
Hands: Spade
Backplate stamped: Serial number; Drocourt stamp; Paris
Regulation script to top of backplate: S/F
Holding screws: Single

As seen on a number of clocks by Drocourt, this example has a plate to the underside of the base engraved with the name and address.



29265: HIGHLY DECORATIVE PANELLED CLOCK

Serial No: 29265

Movement Number: Unknown

Case: Highly decorative with blue porcelain panels decorated with *putti* at play.

Movement: Strike/repeat on a gong

Platform: Angled two-part bridge

Wheel crossings: Straight

Barrel bridge angle: Steep

Dial: Batons to the five minutes with black Roman numerals. Signed for the retailer: *Musy Père et Fils, Horlogers du Roi, Turin*

Rear of dial: Unknown

Hands: Spade

Backplate stamped: Serial number; Drocourt stamp

Regulation script to top of backplate: S/F

Holding screws: Single

Courtesy of Butchoff, Antique Dealers, London

Not exhibited

This was a style that Drocourt manufactured over a number of years. Another almost exact example, with serial number 13965, is known also made for the retailer *Musy Père et Fils, Turin* with another early version being H.L. 6646 retailed by Leroy, from the Antelis Collection and sold at Christies in November 1998.



29756: WITH AN AD GONG BLOCK



Serial No: 29756
Movement Number: No *blanc* number
Case: Corniche
Movement: Strike on a gong
Platform: Crescent bridge
Wheel crossings: Straight
Barrel bridge angle: Steep
Dial: Dots to the five minutes, as in the early examples, with black Roman numerals and outer five minute numerals
Rear of dial: Serial number
Hands: Spade
Backplate stamped: Serial number
Regulation script to top of backplate: S/F
Holding screws: Single

The gong block is stamped A.D within an oval, rather than the normal F.D as seen on the earlier clocks. At first this seemed to be a different style as there was no flourish to the oval surround as seen with the F.D. stamp; but a further carriage clock seen signed for *Pons* has the F.D. mark within a plain oval and with the same style of stamp as this A.D. example.



The arrow around the hand arbor is now situated above rather than below, which came in circa serial number 23000, and matches the unsigned examples 23026 & 23265. The wording HANDS is now taller and matches the Paris stamp.

This style of arrow, without the tail and not as 'neat', has similarities to those stamped for E. Maurice & Co.

32724: SILVER CASE HALLMARKED FOR 1900



Serial No: 32724

Movement Number: No *blanc* number

Case: Solid silver with embossed decoration; hallmarked London 1900

Movement: Strike/repeat on a gong

Platform: Crescent bridge

Wheel crossings: Straight

Barrel bridge angle: Steep

Dial: Dots to the five minutes with black Roman numerals

Rear of dial: Serial number

Hands: Spade

Backplate stamped: Serial number; Drocourt stamp (upside down); Paris

The DC trademark on the backplate isn't deeply embossed as previously seen, with the initials and clock raised; but is now contra with the initials and clock pressed into the brass as with a normal stamp. On this example it is strangely upside-down.

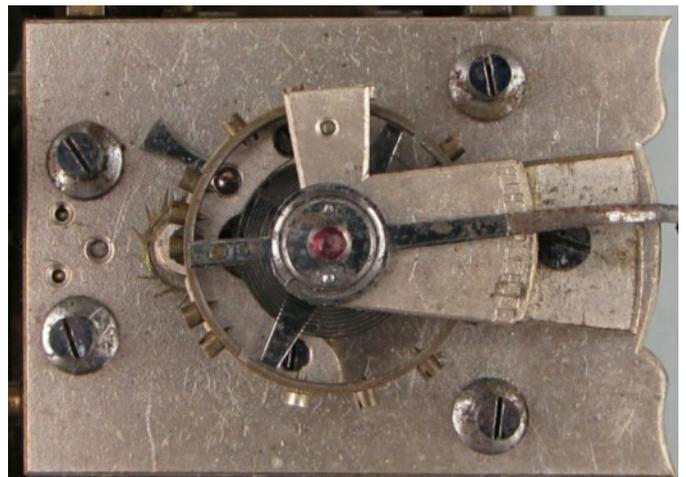
Regulation script to top of backplate: S/F

Holding screws: Single

Gong block: Plain

Although the Drocourt output was nearly all brass-cased carriage clocks, there were a number of other styles utilised such as the solid silver cased example seen here.

The silversmiths mark is for Frederick Bradford Macrea of Victoria Street, Westminster, London. The same stamp is seen on a similar Drocourt clock, number 32232, which is hallmarked for 1895.



34671: OBIS TIMEPIECE ALARM



Serial No: 34671
Movement Number: No *blanc* number
Case: Obis
Movement: Timepiece with alarm on a bell
Stamped between the plates: Drocourt, Paris
Platform: Angled bridge
Wheel crossings: Straight
Dial: Diamonds and dots to the five minutes with black Roman numerals
Rear of dial: Serial number
Hands: Spade
Backplate stamped: Drocourt stamp; Paris
Again it is to be noted that the DC trademark on the backplate isn't deeply embossed as previously seen.
Regulation script to top of backplate: S/F
Holding screws: Single

The baseplate is stamped with the name and address for Drocourt, but with the addition of the initial A, reading *A. Drocourt*. This is a far cheaper style of clock as that expected from the Drocourt workshops, being in an Obis case and having a movement that can only be described as fairly normal. It has a layout similar to 553 seen at the end of the catalogue, although with a higher quality of case than that and a lever, rather than cylinder, escapement.



36279: A CORNICHE CARRIAGE CLOCK

Serial No: 36279

Movement Number: No *blanc* number

Case: Corniche fully engraved with masked dial

Movement: Strike/repeat on a gong, with alarm

Platform: Crescent bridge

Wheel crossings: Straight

Barrel bridge angle: Steep

Dial: Diamond & dots to the five minutes with black Roman numerals

Rear of dial: Serial number

Hands: Spade

Backplate stamped: Serial number; Made in Paris oval

Regulation script to top of backplate: S/F

Holding screws: Single

Gong block: Plain

There is no DC mark on the backplate, nor the oval trademark between the plates but the wording 'Drocourt, Paris' (see trademark page). The movement is different to the norm in having less refined dial pillars, heavier crossing-out to the wheelwork and the centre wheel is closer to the frontplate, being *inside* the strikework pinwheel, rather than more to the middle as would be expected. The movement pillars are now back to all being the same size and again there is a spare alarm hole drilled through the dial plate.

When holding the exhibition this was the last recorded Drocourt carriage clock. Since that time I have acquired a later numbered corniche carriage clock, 36340, as shown below. It is also unsigned on the backplate but has the Drocourt name stamped between the plates, and has an eight-day timepiece movement with alarm. The movement is not typical Drocourt but obviously sourced elsewhere.



36340: THE LAST RECORDED DROCOURT CARRIAGE CLOCK



Seen alongside number 2, the first recorded Drocourt carriage clock

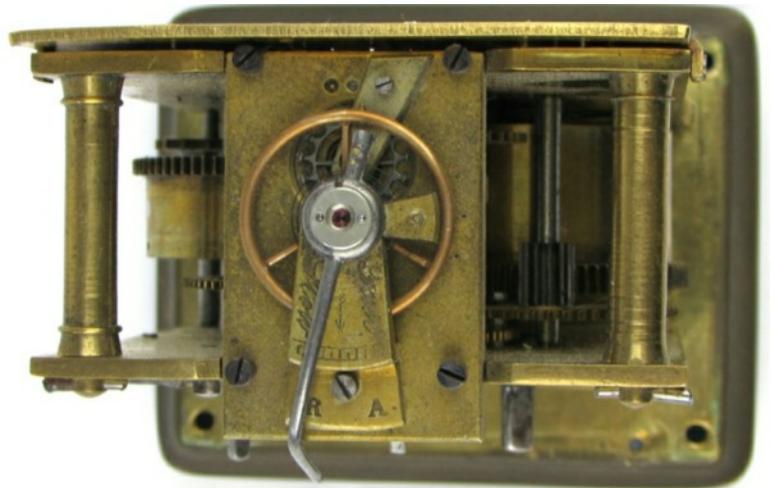
533: DROCOURT FILS



Serial No: 533
Movement Number: None
Case: Obis
Movement: Timepiece, with alarm
Platform: Cylinder
Dial: Arabic numerals; with gilt-brass surround set with paste decoration. Signed *Drocourt Fils*
Hands: Spade
Backplate: Plain
Regulation script to top of backplate: S/F (large)

An odd clock being in the Obis style, the cheapest type of any produced and not at all what would be expected of a Drocourt, especially being fitted with a cylinder escapement which Drocourt never used. The usual two locating holes in the backplate, set below the platform, are missing and the S/F is in a larger than normal script. There are no markings on the movement to indicate a Drocourt clock, just on the dial. Drocourt et Fils are recorded 1870-72 although this clock is obviously of later manufacture.

Other carriage clocks for Drocourt made at this period have a similar movement and the backplate layout matches that on 34671. It is quite probable that it was made for them by one of Drocourt's near-neighbours in Saint-Nicolas-d'Alhiermont.





The Drocourt stand at the 1900 Paris Exposition showing not only complete carriage clocks but movements of all sizes