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Bulle Clock Serial Number 258493.

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Restoration photos by kind permission of the owner.

A short movement clockette, s/n 258493. The case is a four glass design with wood base and top and four pillars of brass. The top has been retained by the owner to reduce possible damage in transit. The clock appears to be in good condition although it does not work at all on a 1.5 volt battery.

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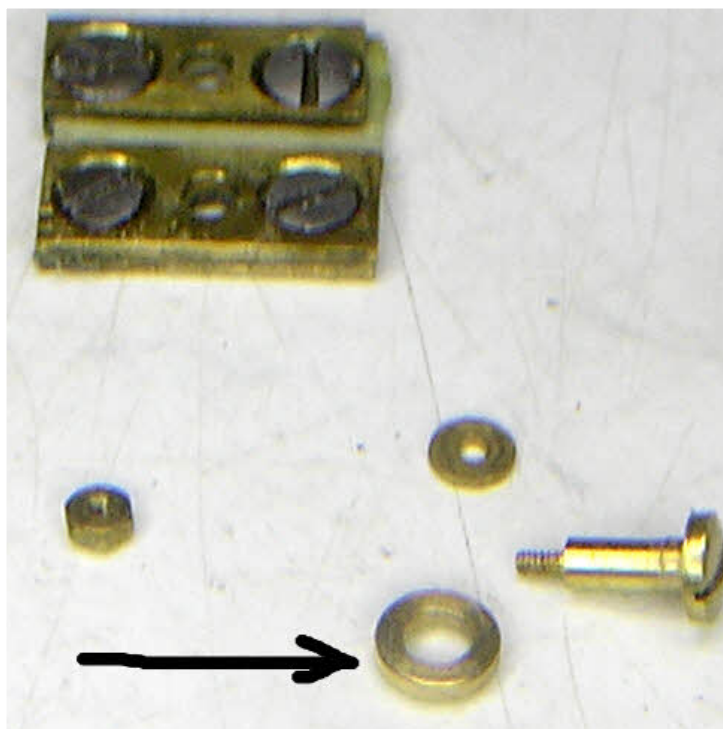
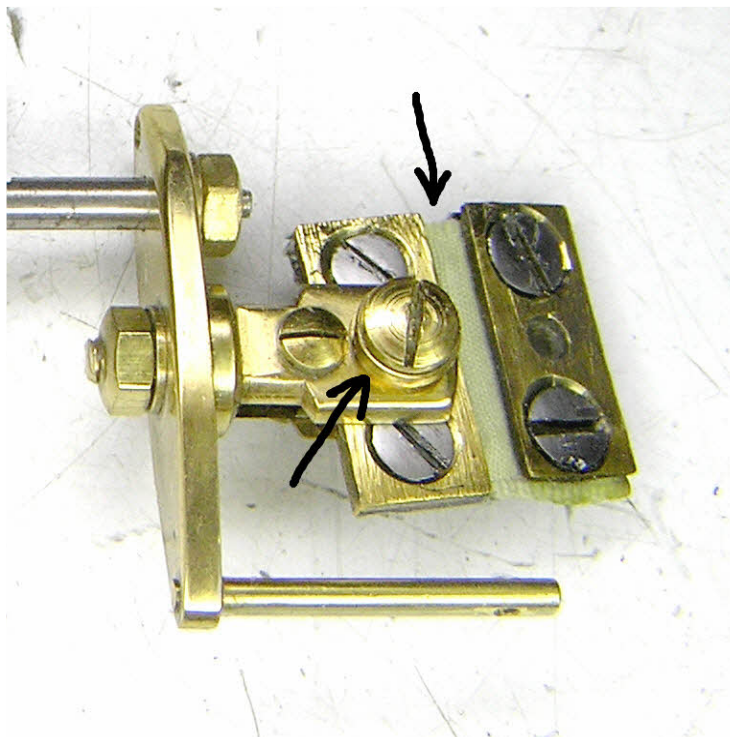
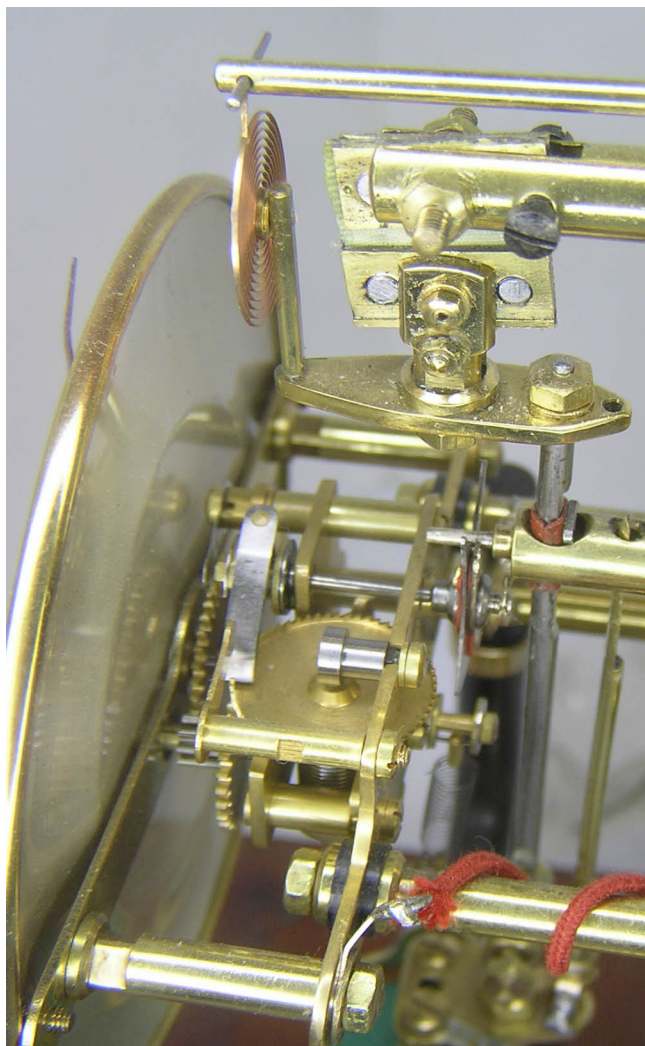
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As can be seen above the movement seems to be in good condition with no parts missing. One interesting extra though is the washer applied to the lower pendulum assembly. I assume it has been placed there to allow the nut and bolt to tighten the assembly against the suspension. But this is wrong. The unit has been designed this way to allow the pendulum to swing forward and back and find it's own level on an uneven surface. This washer will be removed. The photo at top right also shows the repaired suspension which will also be replaced.

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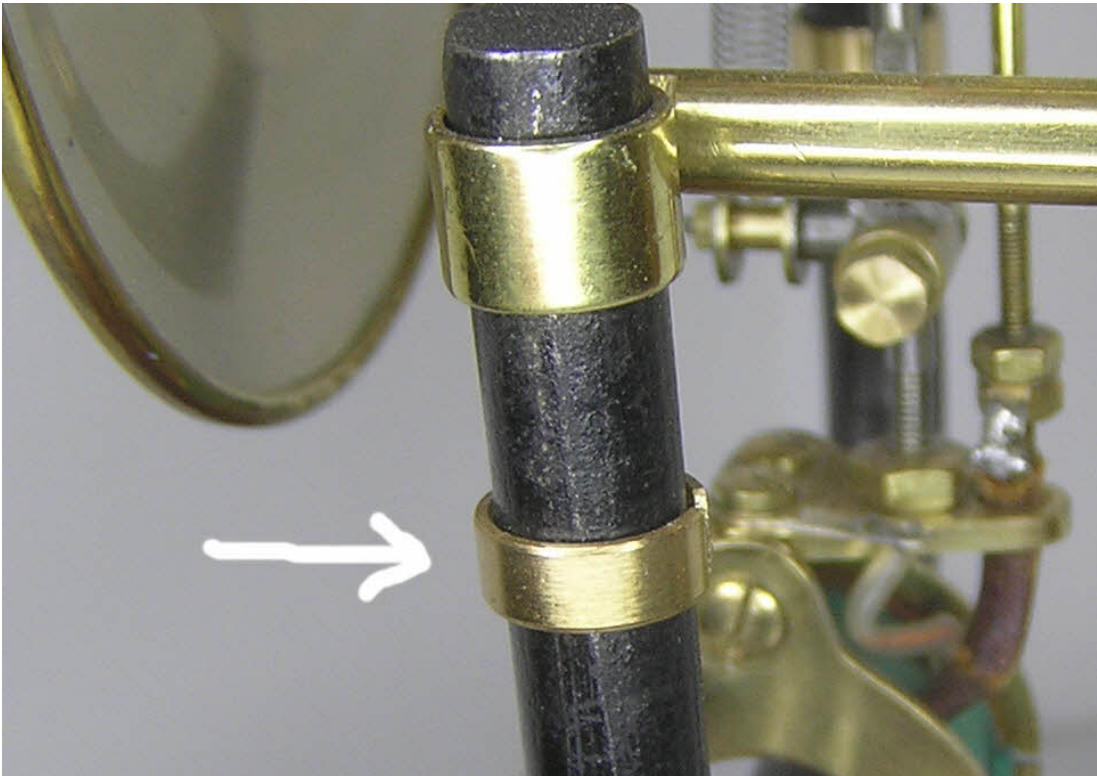
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This photo shows the magnet and decorative collars. At first glance they appear OK but closer inspection reveals them to be thicked than normal. They are in fact replacements mad up by the current owner. They are a good match though for the original and would only be noticed when disassembled.



The other odd point about this clock is the pendulum coil assembly. On a clockette that has the pendulum visible under a dome or four glass case etc, the coil would normally be covered with a black painted brass shell to make it more appealing to the eye. This example has the type of assembly normally associated with an enclosed case where the swinging pendulum would not be visible. The coil cover would then not be important and manufacturing costs could be lowered by not encasing it. The coil would therefore be bound in green silk ribbon. This clock has had the ribbon replaced by a piece of green material. It may be that, given the replacement magnet collars and the coil cover, this movement may not have started with this case.

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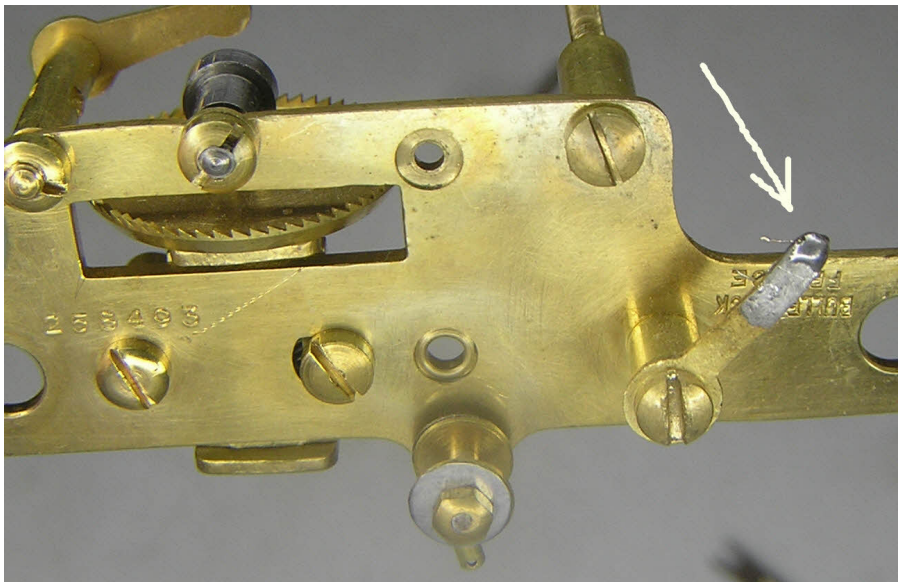
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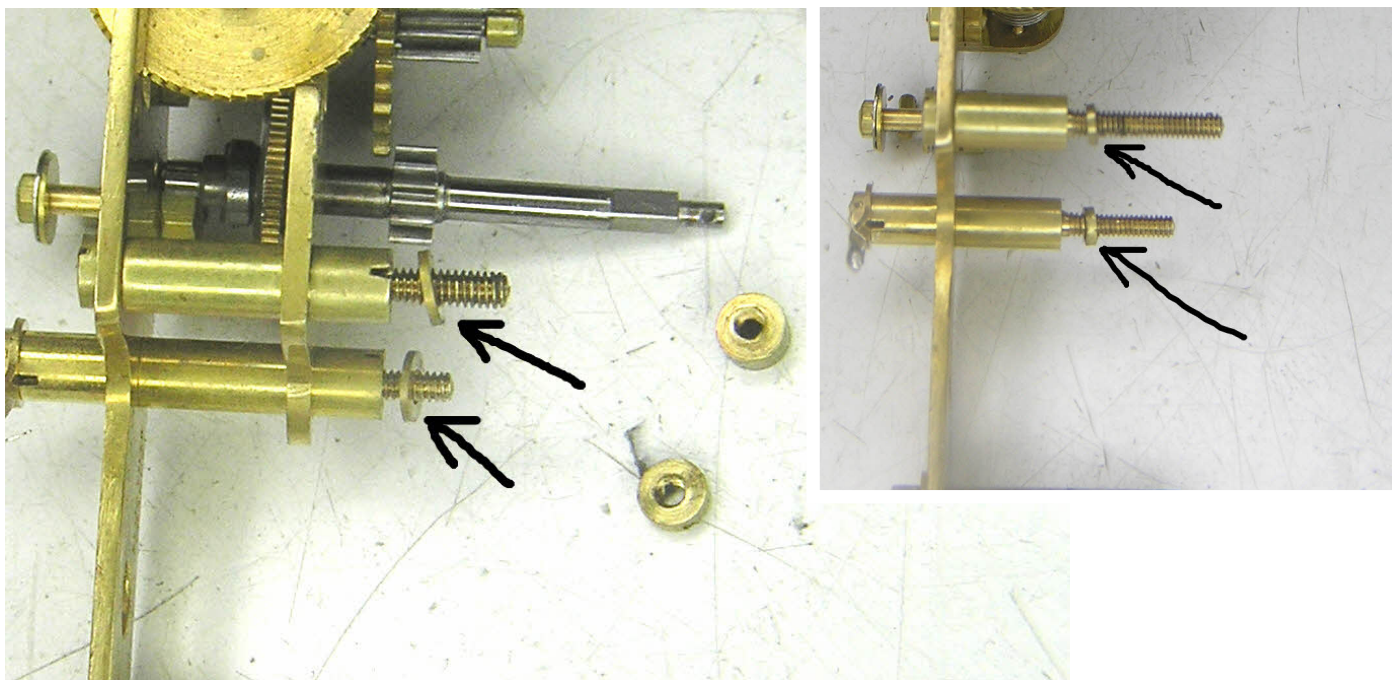
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This photo shows that the contact arm that carries the Silver contact spring has had the spring soldered to it at some point. I understand that a soldered joint would be a more reliable contact but the clock was designed with the spring held simply under tension in the hole, I will remove the solder, clean the arm and return it as intended. The contact will be sufficient if the assembly is thoroughly cleaned before reassembly.



These two photos show the small washers sometimes applied to the movement to correctly space out the plates to allow sufficient end shake to the centre arbour. They are located immediately behind the 1st and 2nd movement plates. Be very careful when disassembling as they are easily lost especially if you don't know they're there.

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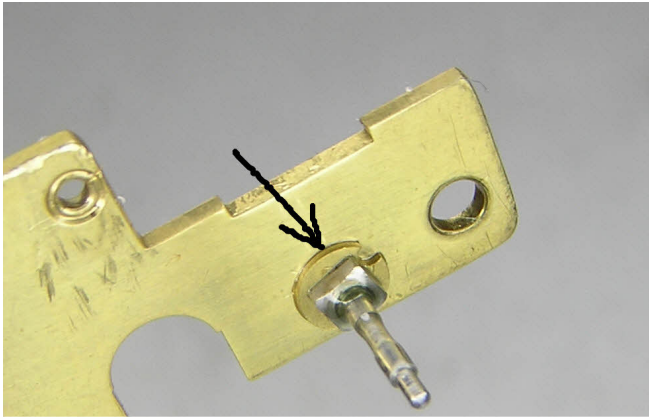
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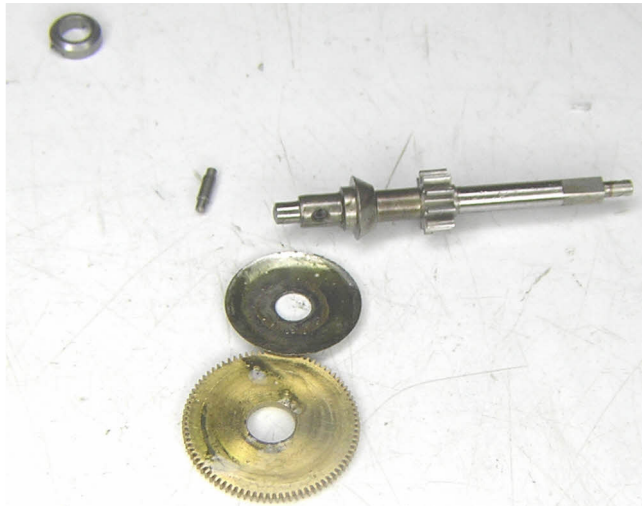
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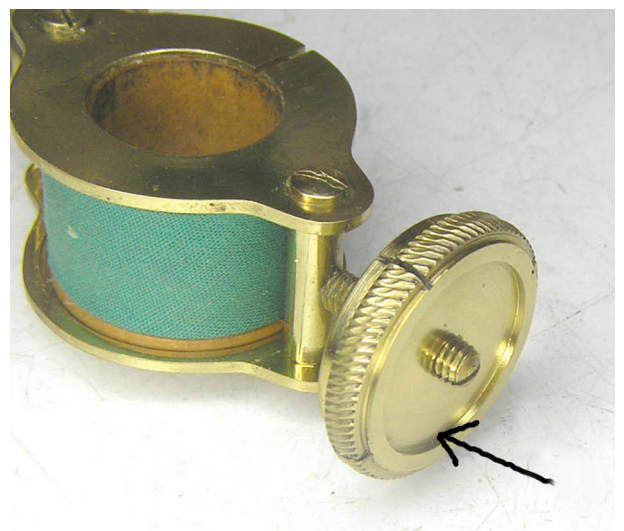
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This photo shows the extra washer placed between the arbour carry the intermediate motion wheel and the movement plate. I assume it is there to adjust the position of the wheel to a more forward position, but after assembling the movement again after repairs and cleaning, I could find no reason for it. It was therefore removed.



I have included this photo to show the centre arbour assembly which is typical of these late small clockette movements. The wheel is held in place by the large steel spring washer which in turn is held by the small washer and pin. This friction mechanism allows the hands to be set without necessity of a cannon pinion.



These last two photos show the hollowed out rating nut. This has been done to lighten it and in effect shorten the pendulum, thereby speeding up the clock. There is never a case for doing this. If the clock is slow and cannot be speeded up by raising the nut then obviously something else is wrong. This nut will be replaced.

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The new rating nut and coil shell.

The clock on test. The arrow shows the lower suspension assembly and the washer removed. This allows freedom for the pendulum to swing forward and back to find it's own level. The top assembly in contrast should be tight and positioned such that the pendulum swings easily and does not wobble and touch the magnet.

The only other thing wrong with the clock which I neglected to photograph was that the fork was loosely riveted to the arbour. This meant that the pawls could not be tightened in position correctly and the electrical contact was poor between the fork and silver contact. The assembly was re-riveted in place.



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The completed clock.

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