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The place to come for all your Bulle and Eureka restoration parts.

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Eureka Clock Serial Number 7502

*Restoration of Eureka
Clock Serial Number 7502*

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Photos by kind permission of the owner. This tall movement has a solid porcelain dial with no seconds hand. The movement has two balls with front steel plate and sits on a round pressed brass base. Overall it looks to be in good condition with no major damage or missing parts. The dial is in excellent order.

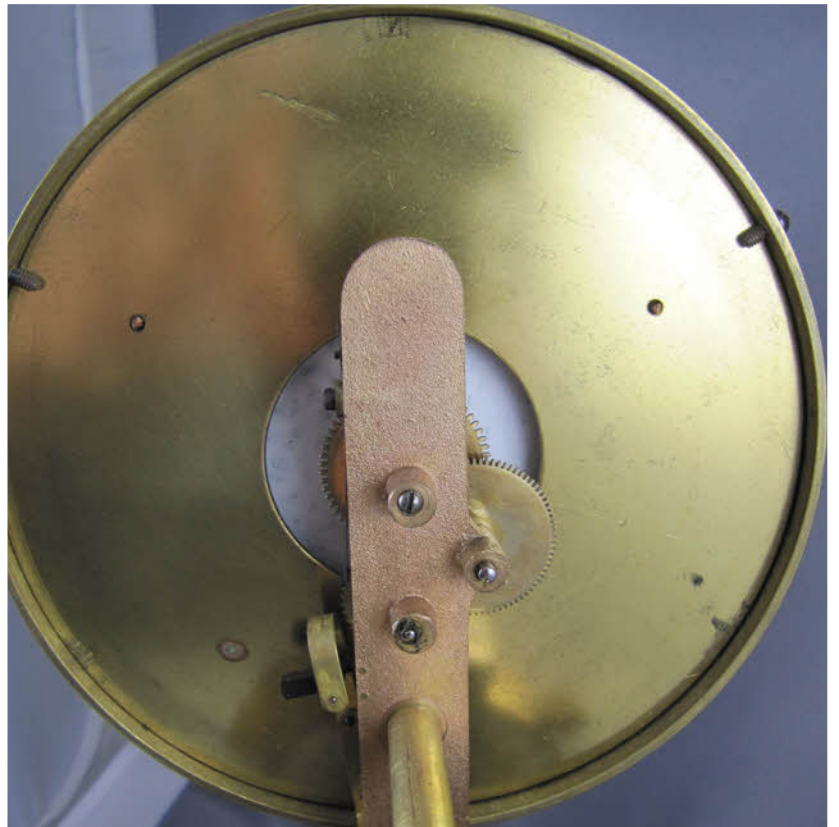
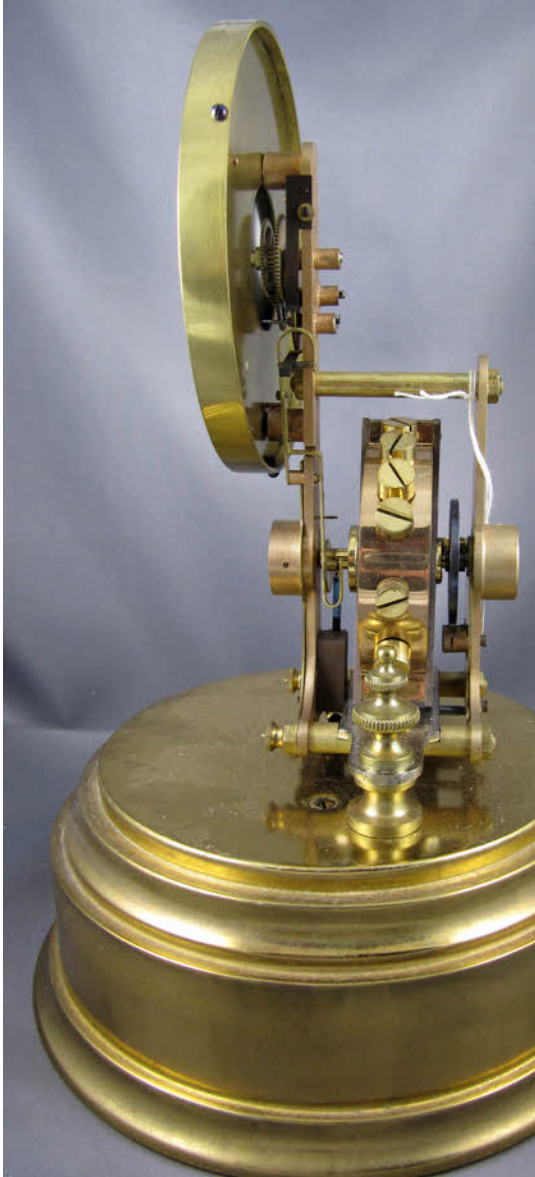
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These views show that the clock is in a generally good condition but the front identification plate has lost its wax filling. This is not an issue and new wax will be applied after polishing. The rear of the dial shows a clean and tidy dial pan with two of the dial pins showing through.. The owner decided not to have the base cleaned and polished as some of the original gilding was still present and polishing would not have been in keeping with the rest of the clock.

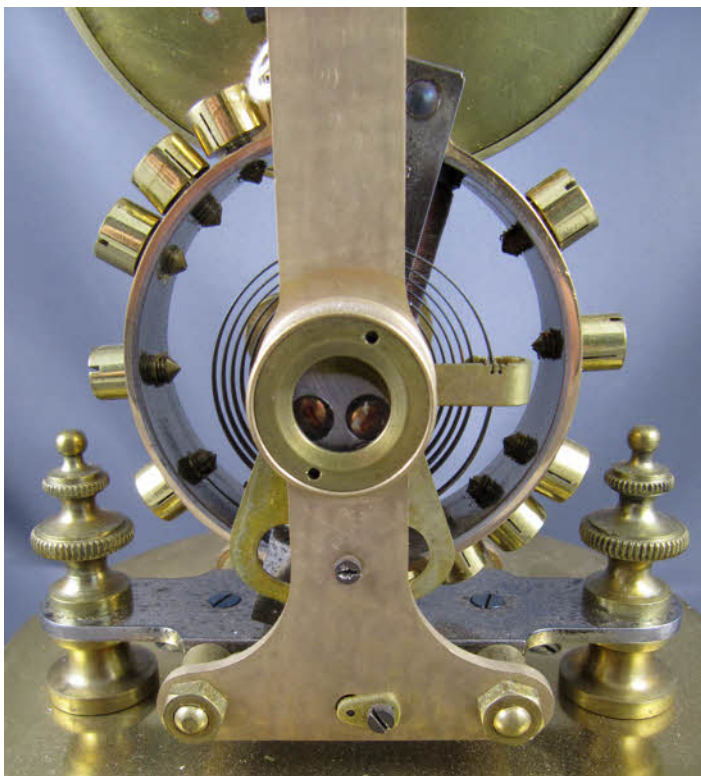
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This photo shows that the rear bearing assembly seems to be gummed up with old oil. Although this would restrict the free movement of the balance wheel, it is good in that it is easily cleaned and will have at least protected the steel work from any rust.



The photos above show the underside of the base with just a couple of acid corrosion marks. These will be cleaned up. But the condition of the battery cover gives some cause for concern as can be seen in the photo at left. It has been heavily corroded and cleaned at some point leaving large pits and ragged edges. I will clean and remove the corrosion but I am a little worried that the metal may be too thin in places and the whole cover will break up.



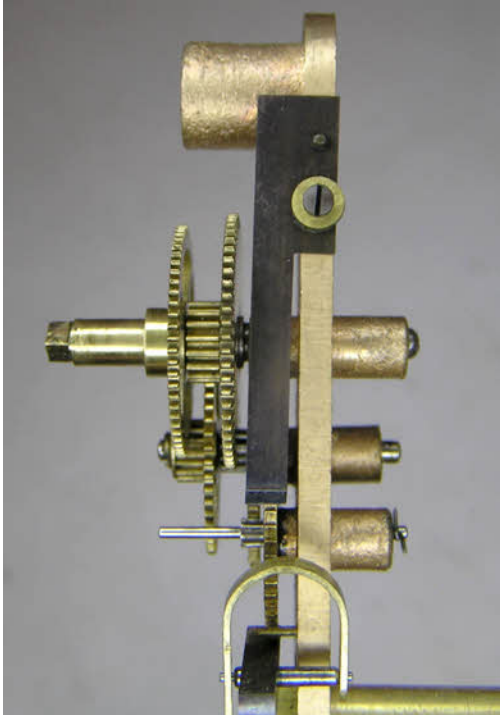
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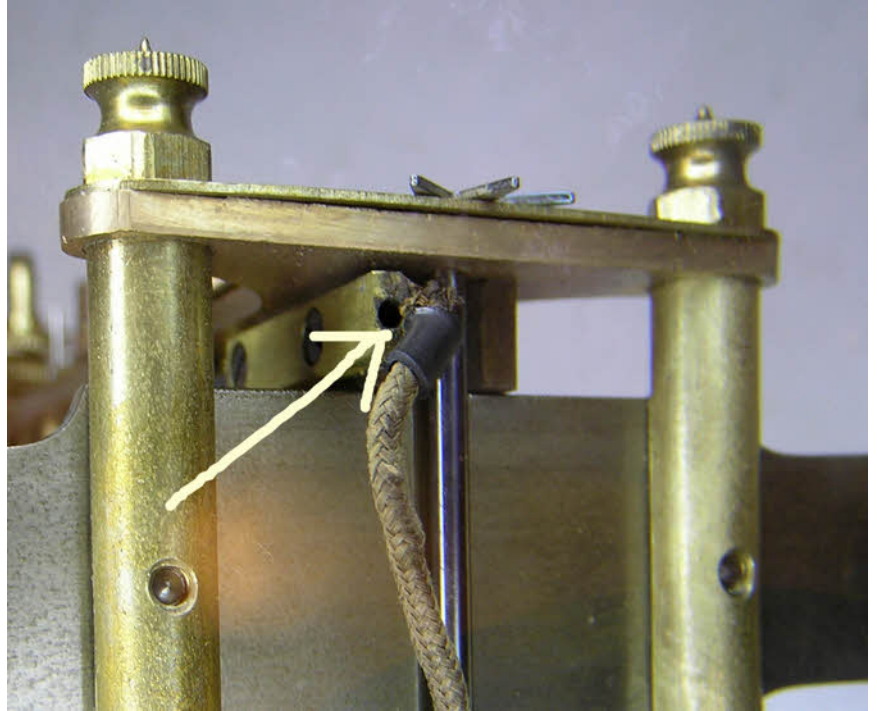
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The click spring for the count wheel looks too good to be true. It looks as though it may have been replaced at some point.



This photo shows the positive wire from the battery which is not soldered into the contact block as it should be. This wire will be replaced and attached correctly.



The impulse arm on Eureka clocks is one of two type. In this case it is made from two flat brass parts bent and then screwed together. The other type is bent to shape from one single sheet of brass.



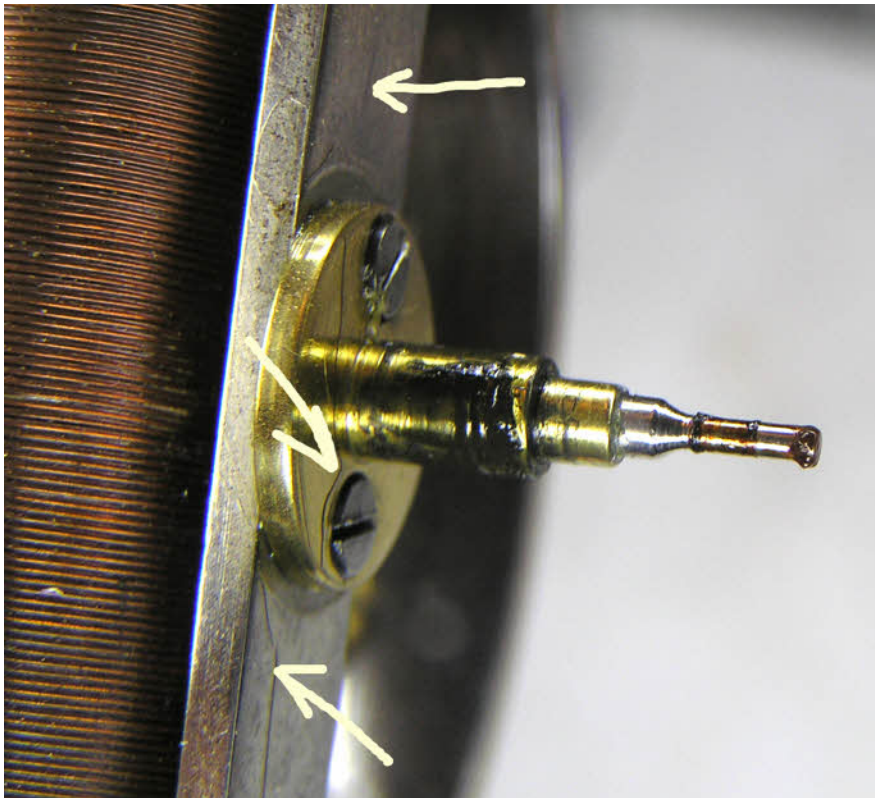
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This group of photo shows the extent of the oil build up on the bearings and the the pivots. It is easily removed although the staining may be more difficult to remove on the steel plate and glass. I use acetone and cotton buds. Although the last picture seems to indicate a groove in the pivot it is in fact just a build up of oil gum and the pivot is in very good condition with no scoring. But there is some sort of residue on the brass and steelwork as shown by the arrows.

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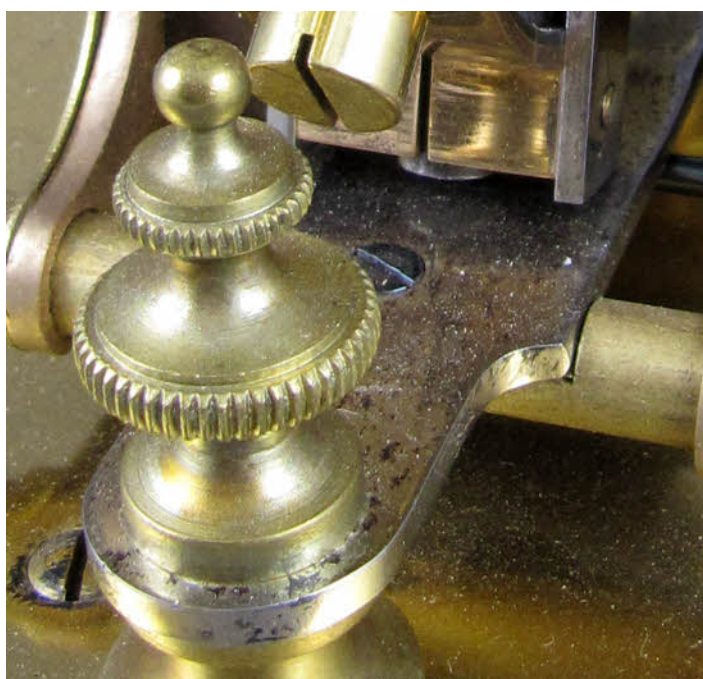
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On closer examination it was discovered that the the whole clock was coated in a thick layer of lacquer which must of been slapped on with a trowel. The arrows indicate where it is thickest. It was everywhere and proved quite difficult to remove. I had to resort to two sessions in the ultrasonic tank before it would even start to lift.



Some of the parts after their second ultrasonic bath. I had to resort to extra cleaning with acetone before I could start polishing. If the old lacquer is not removed completely then trying to polish the brass would just result in black smudges of lacquer everywhere.

This last photo shows the base plate with a mottled effect due to the nickel plating lifting in some areas. There is not much that can be done with this other than cleaning and polishing what is left. It can of course be stripped right off and nickel plated again but that would be costly and not really necessary as it will not affect the function of the balance wheel. It shouldn't get any worse over the next twenty or thirty years as long as it is kept dry. Perhaps it may be worthwhile having it plated then?

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The balance wheel partially assembled. Each of the screws is weighed so the best way to remember where they come from is to note the weight of each screw as if it was on the face of a twelve hour clock. I use a small electronic scales accurate to 1/10th of a gram. These are then noted with the clocks serial number in a file so that they are easily replaced in the correct position when reassembled. The steel armature has been cleaned and polished to make sure of a good contact in the brass wheel rim. The whole assembly is then checked for continuity and correct 20 Ohm resistance reading before final assembly. The contact pin is yet to be attached. Below are a couple of photos of the battery cover and underside of the base. The cover was still good and solid after the removal of corrosion and was given extra protection with lacquer. The sticky back foam was attached to cushion the battery and provide enough pressure to secure the battery without it sliding around. These batteries have two protruding terminals which should not be allowed to touch the brass base.



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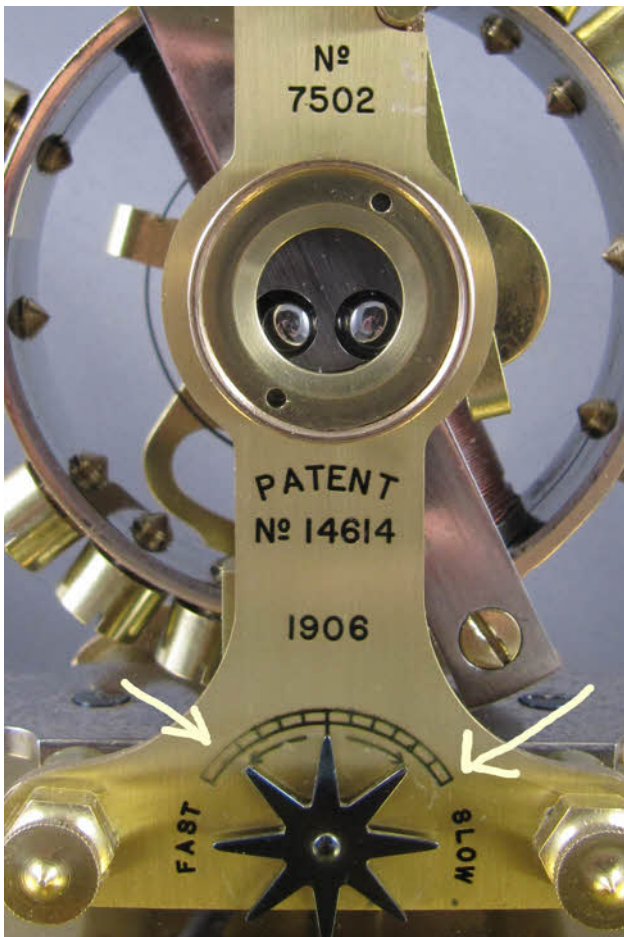
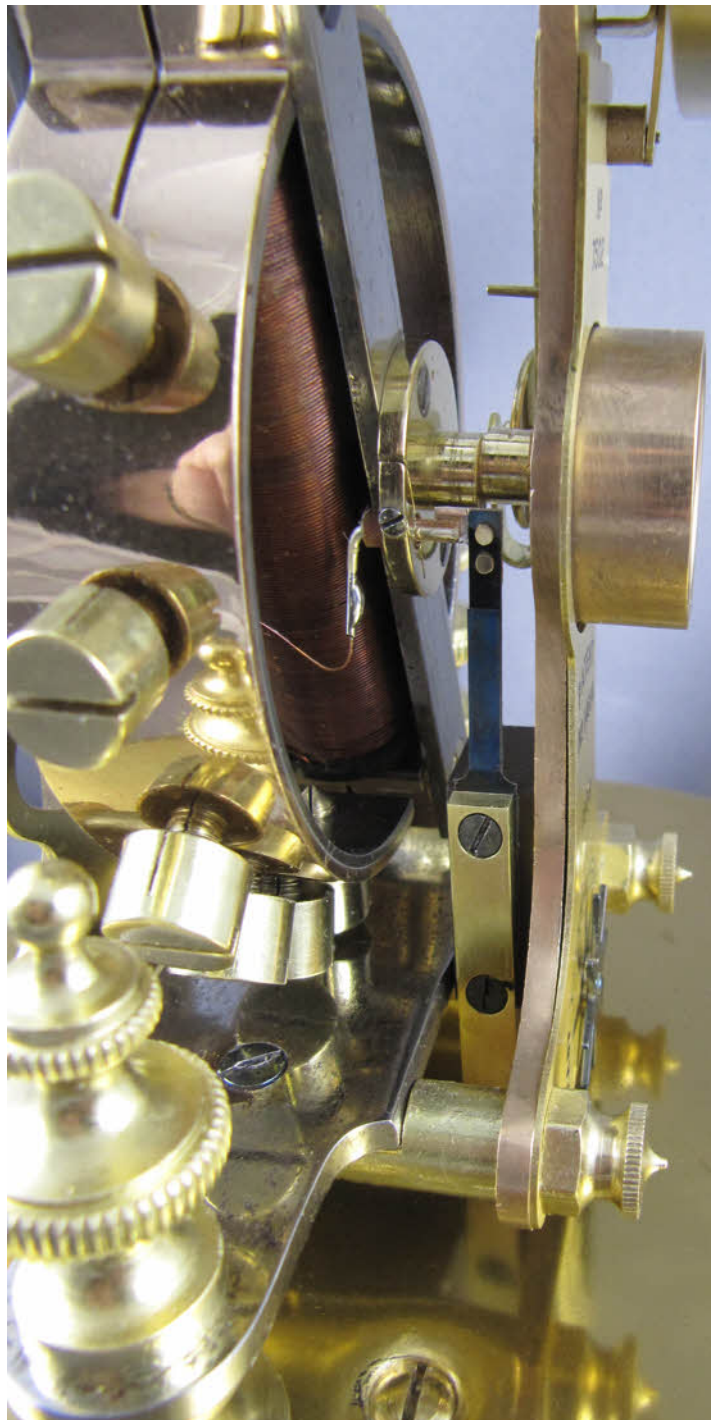
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Some shots of the reassembled movement. Note the new contact pin and flag assembly. Also the newly waxed id plate which is not perfect as the two arrows show. The engraving is very shallow at those points and would not take the wax to the depth required.



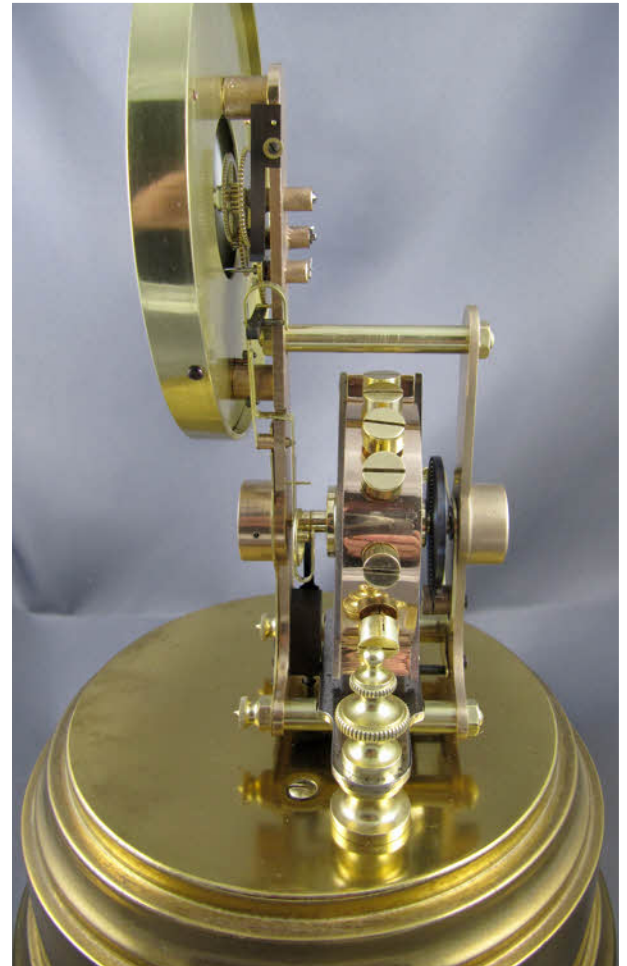
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The finished clock