

Clocks and Barometers / Thu, 25th January 2018 / Lot 1150



## LOT 1150

A William & Mary brass mounted ebonized timepiece bracket clock, circa 1690-1695, with pull hour repeat missing, with single fusee movement and verge escapement, striking on a single bell, the backplate with foliate engraved decoration, the square brass dial with engraved matt centre and date aperture, framed by a silvered chapter ring with black Roman hour numerals and outer Arabic minutes, inscribed 'Gabriel Smith, Barthomley', cornered with mask and scroll spandrels, the rectangular case with cushion-moulded top and swing handle above pine cone finials, glazed sides and applied pierced and embossed panels, on foliate feet, height 38.5cm (pull quarter repeat missing, other faults and alterations). Note: Gabriel Smith is regarded as one of the best early provincial clockmakers. Born in 1654, he worked in Barthomley (Cheshire) from around 1690-1722, when he moved to Nantwich. He died in Barthomley in 1743.

Estimate: £2,000 - £4,000

## Condition Report

1150. An almost original clock by a well known 17th century maker. Mechanism, with original verge escapement, originally a timepiece, with pull hour repeat (not pull quarter repeat as stated in original catalogue description). Unfortunately, the entire pull repeat mechanism has been removed and it has been replaced by an amateur made passing strike mechanism of poor quality. There has been fitted a very decorative 20th century back cock that is totally out of keeping with this style of clock. The pillars screwed into backplate are a very distinctive Gab. Smith design feature. Hands probably not original and some minor damage to the hour hand. Slight problem with date change mechanism. Movement lifted in case a little with some modern brass strips. Case in good condition for its age. There are some minor missing parts to the front door ormolu embellishments and the front ormolu panel on the caddy top should be repeated at rear, this is missing although there is evidence of it being there (small holes). The ormolu mounts on the front of the case should be repeated on the back, these are missing. Door locks 'old' replacements. Door hinges a little insecure. Some evidence of hole filling to left-hand and right-hand top panels, reason unknown. One finial insecure.

## Additional Information

Height with handle down 34cm.

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