

Clocks and Barometers / Thu, 24th January 2019 / Lot 1170



## LOT 1170

A George III ormolu mounted tortoiseshell musical table clock, circa 1770, of small size, by Markwick Markham, Perigal and John Barbot of London, the rear-wound four train fusee movement with shaped plates joined by eight pillars, quarter chiming on eight bells via six hammers, striking the hour and playing a choice of four Turkish tunes on a pin barrel via sixteen hammers on eight bells, the foliate engraved backplate inscribed 'John Barbot London', the 4-inch circular enamel dial with Turkish chapters and signed 'Markwick Markham' and 'Perigal London', within a gilt arched surround with foliate scroll engraved decoration, the red tortoiseshell veneered round top case with cast foliate scroll ormolu mounts overall, the domed top with urn finial, the sides with arched fret panels, on scroll legs, height 39cm, with a winding key (some faults). Note: Markwick Markham were clock and watchmakers specialising in export to the Ottoman Empire. James Markwick, who was Master of the Clockmakers Company in 1720, and Robert Markham formed a partnership which continued in the name, even after the deaths of the company founders. The Markwick Markham name was associated with a number of eminent clockmakers who added their name to the Markwick Markham prefix, including Francis Perigal, Henry Borrell, Isaac Rogers and William Story.

Estimate: £20,000 - £30,000

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## Condition Report

1170. The case is in generally good order with fine ormolu mounts which are all present and undamaged. Some damage/splitting and minor replacements to tortoiseshell veneer particularly on the back and front door. Front door lock is missing.

Enamel dial in good clean condition with original blued steel hands. Engraved gilt brass dial surround in good order.

Mechanism - the condition is given without dismantling, but removed from the case.

The mechanism will tick over but will not keep running for a long period. The quarter train will run, the strike train and the music train will not run. The fusee chain for the music train has become detached from the music barrel. As far as can be seen there are no other parts missing and there is no reason to believe that a full restoration would not return the clock to full working order. Some evidence that this clock was once 'gut line' driven (i.e. 3 holes in the barrels). All fusee chains appear to be complete and undamaged. Overall the mechanism is rather dirty and requires a full restoration/conservation to return to full working order.

There is a minor alteration to the right hand side securing bracket, presumably to ease the difficulty of fitting the mechanism in the case. Not original winding key.

