

830508

MORETON LODGE, BOURTON ROAD
MORETON IN MARSH, GLOUCESTERSHIRE GL56 0BG
Tel: 01608 652716 Fax: 01608 652706
e-mail sugrue@waitrose.com

Mr Alan Walton
The White Horse Inn at Bridge
53 High Street
Bridge
Canterbury
Kent CT4 5LA

23rd September 2004

Dear Mr Walton

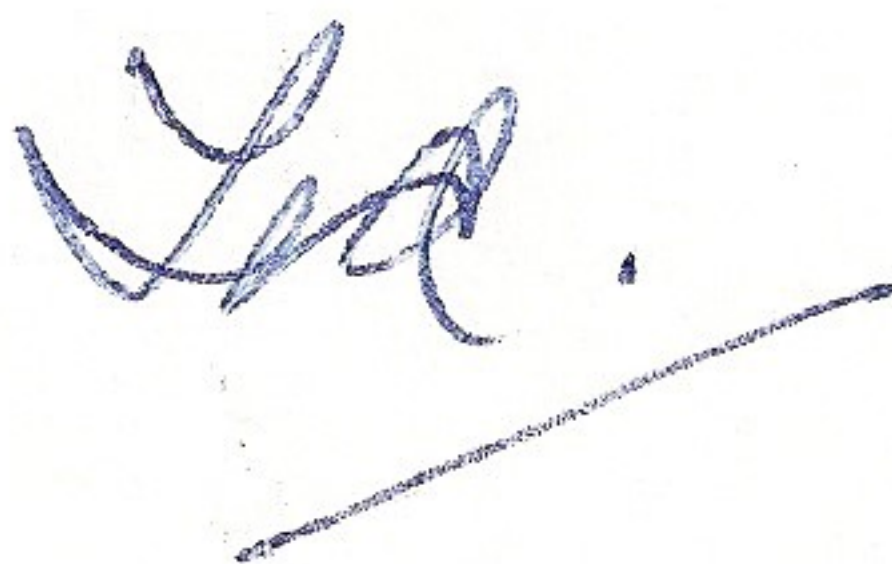
Following lunch at your establishment on Monday last I promised to let you have some information on a family of clockmakers from your village dating back to the late 1700's.

I now enclose photostat copies of information, contained in one of my clock books, which I trust you will find of interest.

My thanks again for a splendid lunch.

With kind regards

Yours sincerely



T J SUGRUE

~~William Dendy of Arundel was a corn merchant who died in February 1842, so the clock may well have been made for him when he got married.~~

Although many provincial makers were buying-in movements from trade suppliers by the end of the eighteenth century, some of them continued to make their own movements in the nineteenth century, although they may have bought-in rough wheels and pinions. Some of these clocks displayed great originality in design, an outstanding example being the year-going striking clock in figure 13/29. It is by Hardeman & Son of Bridge near Canterbury. Samuel Hardeman was in partnership with William Nash at Bridge until 1794 when he set up business on his own; it is not known when he was joined by his son William. Samuel is last recorded in a trade directory of 1838 and the clock was probably made c.1810.

The silvered brass dial (figure 13/30) measures 16ins. by 22½ins., note the absence of minute numbering. Below the dial centre is a simple thirty-one day calendar and in the arch is a month dial with the hand operated from the motion work by a long vertical arbor with an endless screw or worm at its upper end.

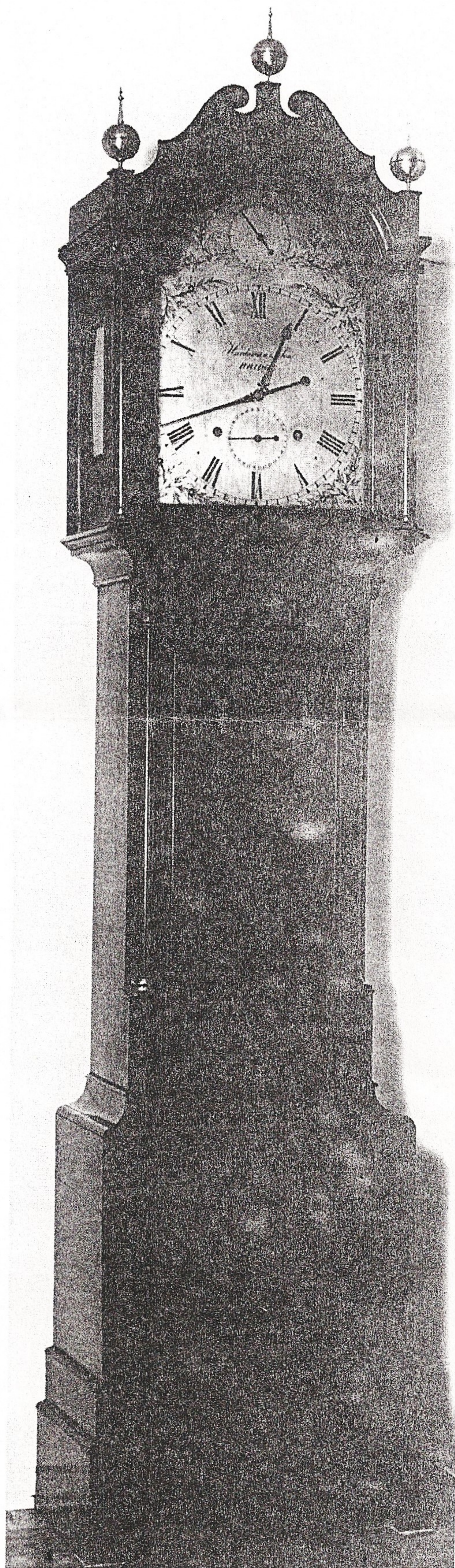
The massive movement (figure 13/31) has seven pillars and the plates are approximately 9¼ins. wide and 11ins. high.

The going train is as follows:

Great wheel	108
Second wheel pinion	12
Second wheel	72
Third wheel pinion	9
Third wheel	64
Centre pinion	8
Centre wheel	60
Fifth wheel pinion	8
Fifth wheel	56
Escape wheel pinion	7
Escape wheel	30

So the clock has a seconds pendulum and the barrel rotates once in twenty-four days, so sixteen turns give a duration of 384 days. The striking train consists of five wheels (see figure 13/32):

Figure 13/29. Year-going striking clock by Hardeman & Son, Bridge. Case with substantial mahogany carcass and fine veneers. Separate double skirting which supports plinth. Height 9ft. 2ins. including finial.



Great wheel	120	
Second wheel pinion	10	
Second wheel	96	
Pin wheel pinion	8	
Pin wheel	78	26 pins
Locking wheel pinion	6	
Locking wheel	72	2 locking pins
Warning wheel pinion	6	
Warning wheel	54	
Fly pinion	7	

With this train the striking barrel also turns once in twenty-four days, so the weights should descend equally. The weights are each of 96lbs. and are suspended on specially strong catgut with large wooden pulleys.

This clock represents a magnificent achievement by a little known provincial maker, year-going striking clocks being particularly rare because of the difficulty of obtaining a reliable performance from the striking train.

The very substantial mahogany case (figure 13/30) with well-chosen veneers, stands freely in the double skirting which supports the lower end of the plinth. The total height, including finial, is 9ft. 2ins.

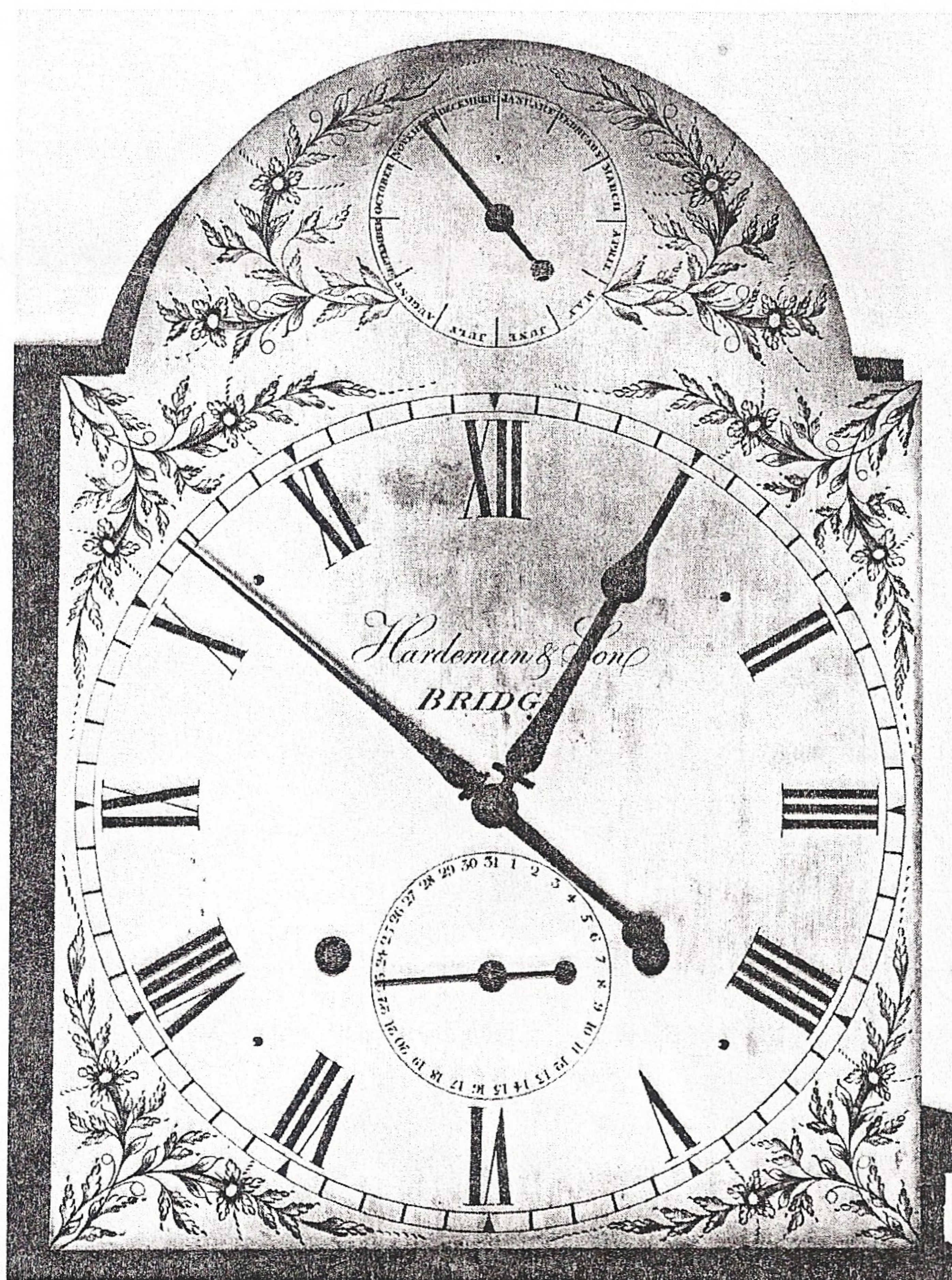


Figure 13/30. 16ins. dial of year clock, note counter-balanced minute hand. Hand of month dial in arch is stepped on daily from motion work.

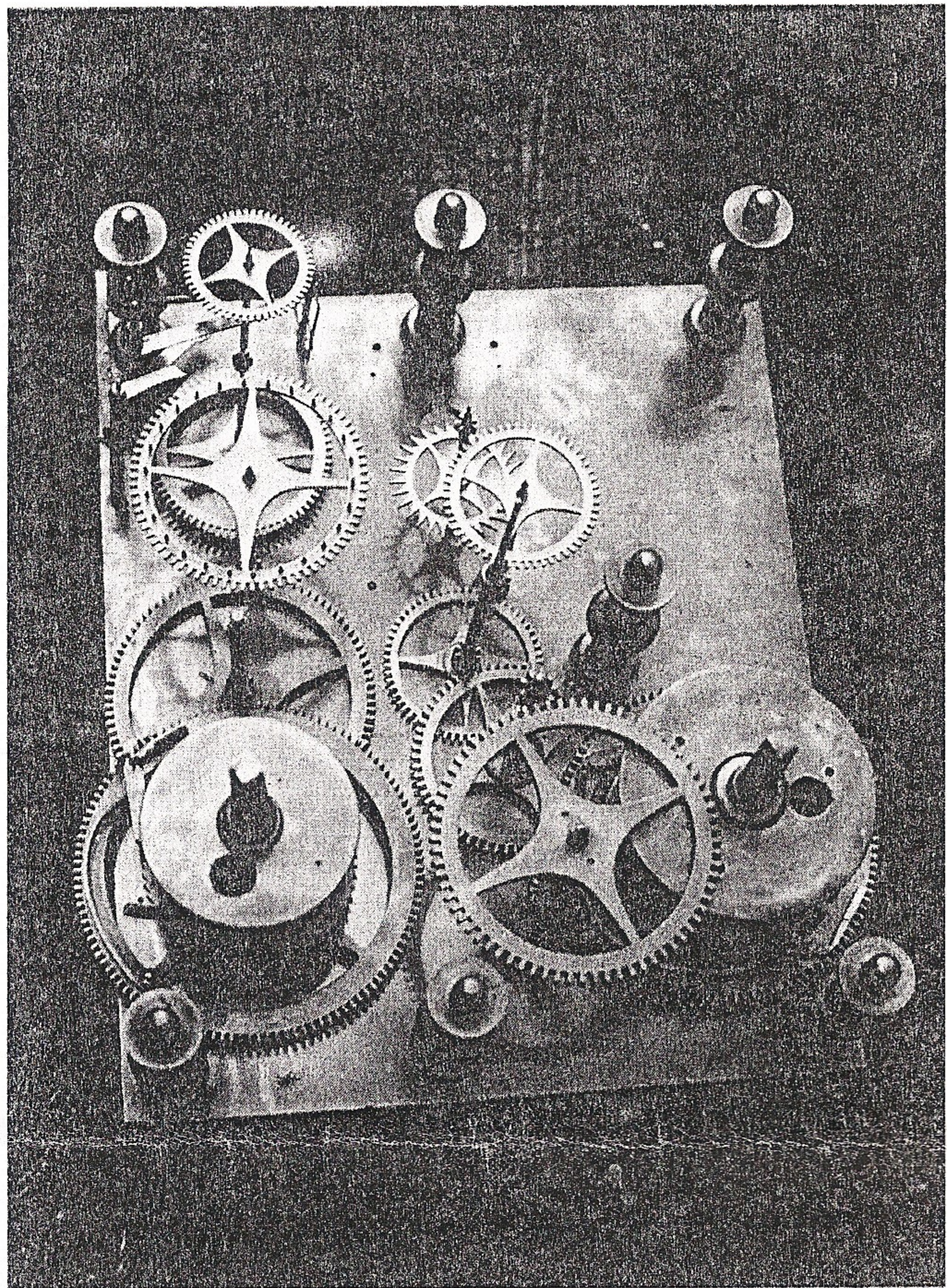


Figure 13/31. Left hand side of year movement showing striking train. Note long vertical arbor with endless screw at upper end operating month hand.

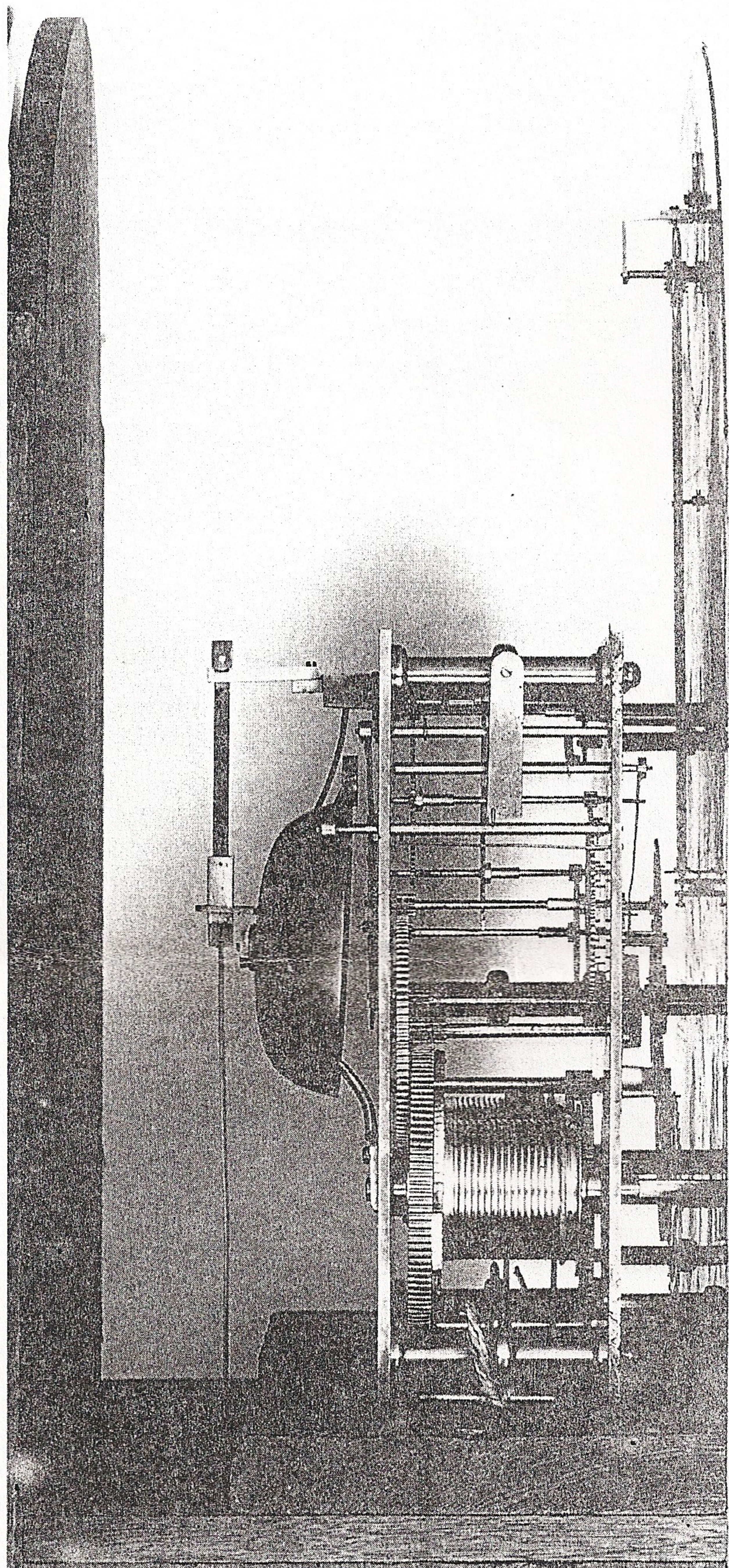


Figure 13/32. Year movement with front plate removed. High-numbered wheels in striking train to obtain required duration from five wheels. Also skeletonised fly for lightness.