

N° 37

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L. VRARD & Co, SHANGHAI

CARRIAGE CLOCK

Engraved and gilt *Gorge* case, with center-sweeping seconds hand



Second half of the 19th Century

H. 19cm (7 ½") with handle up, W. 9,5cm (3 ¾"), D. 8,5cm (3 ¼")

Signed *L. Vnard & Co, Shanghai*

REFERENCE BIOGRAPHY : Charles Allix and Peter Bonnert, *Carriage Clocks, their History and development*, The Antique's Collector's Club, 1974.









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The silvered platform with English-type crabtooth escapement and cut bi-metallic balance wheel. Half-hourly rack strike on a silvered bell at the rear, with repeat button on top at the front of the case. Alarm on a bell situated below. Autonomy 8 days.

Enamel dial with Roman numerals for the hours, with signature L.Vrard & Co, Shanghai. *Breguet* blued steel hands with a large center-sweeping seconds hand.

Finely engraved and gilt *Gorge* case with bevelled glass on five sides allowing for a good view of the movement from all sides, the retailer's name in Chinese is indicated on the rear movement plate.

Height 19cm (7 ½") with handle up, Width 9,5cm (3 ¾"), Depth 8,5cm (3 ¼")

Carriage clocks with center-sweeping seconds hands are rare as this feature added complexity to their design. The Chinese market of the 19th Century was eager for them as this made the clock *alive*, as time was thus visible with the naked eye. Another unusual feature on this clock is the presence of TWO separate bells, for the strike and alarm, an unexpected refinement.







