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RENARD à Paris

TRAVELLING LANTERN CLOCK



Circa 1740

Height 5 ¼ ", Width 3 ¼ ", Depth 3 ½ "







RENARD À PARIS, CIRCA 1740
TRAVELLING LANTERN CLOCK



Very likely Armand Renard, established *Cloître St-Jean de Latran* circa 1750-1772. (ref Tardy, *dictionnaire des horlogers français*)

Round enamel dial with blue Roman numerals for the hours and black Arabic numerals for the 5 minutes. Three very finely cut gilt brass hands for the hours and the minutes, the third indicating the number of hours until alarm time. An enamel cartouche above bears the signature *Renard à Paris*, the ormolu cartouche below bears the coat of arms of the owner. He has been identified as being very likely Mathieu Pinsonneau, Marquis du Blanc. Two pairs of provost walking staffs ornate the lower corners, one single staff above the marquis' crown, and the two roses on the upper corners refer to the provostship of Bondy.

A large spring barrel supplies power to the movement with a two-weeks autonomy, the verge escape wheel bears 45 teeth.

The case is of polished brass on all sides, gilt at the front. 4 toupee feet give good equilibrium to the lower side and protect the spring barrel protuberance.

The alarm is armed by a pull-wind on the right. A cylindrical bell is placed on top. A brass hook and two brass pointers allow for the hanging of the clock in the lantern clock fashion.

Height 5 ¼ ", Width 3 ¼", Depth 3 ½"



The rod or ‘walking’ staff is the emblem of a provost; it can represent either a religious institution or civic authority. Besides the crossed provost staves represented on the lower corners of the plate, a single staff is displayed behind the armorial, its tip emerging just above the crown. Thanks to Comte Théodore de Renesse’s *Dictionnaire des figures héraldiques*,¹ it has also been possible to identify armorials with dragons, whether as an individual figure on a shield or as a charged figure appearing in the first and fourth quarters of a quartered escutcheon, as seen here. Considering the French origin of this clock, only the surname of Pinsonneau (Paris), listed under the heading of complete armorials (with dragons), corresponds to this geographic location.

Mathieu Pinsonneau (1656-1747), Seigneur de Granville, Intendant of Police, Justice and Finance of Ile de France before becoming Chancellor, was Keeper of the Seals and Superintendant of Finance to the Duc d’Orléans and Treasurer of the Royal Order of Saint Louis. Secretary of the Council and Premier Commis in the War Department, he was also Secretary to Louvois, the French Secretary for War under Louis XIV. Conferred the title of Marquis du Blanc, in 1715 he became the owner of the Château de Forges in the province of Berry, thereafter acquiring multiple properties in Brittany. Through his wife, Pétronille Tribouilleau, he obtained half of the provostship of Bondy (today in the department of Seine-Saint-Denis, outside Paris), which was subsequently passed on and split between Julien Louis Bidé, his son-in-law, and his daughter Pétronille Françoise Pinsonneau.²

¹ Cte. Théodore de Renesse, *Dictionnaire des figures héraldiques*, (Société belge de librairie: Brussels, 1897), vol. 3, p. 133.

² Henri Furgeot, *Juridictions ordinaires royales et seigneuriales* (Centre historique des archives nationales, 1892), pp. 24 -25.

It is therefore possible that the clock's armorials – comprising a provost staff, dragon and marquis coronet – might be those of Mathieu Pinsonneau, Marquis de Blanc, as well as those of his descendants, in this case his daughter, who, together with her husband, came into possession of the Bondy provostship. Furthermore, the roses displayed in the upper corners of the plate may refer to the town of Bondy, the arms of which are blazoned: 'Argent, on a mount in base a forest vert (sinople), in chief azure charged with three cinquefoils argent' (fig. 1).

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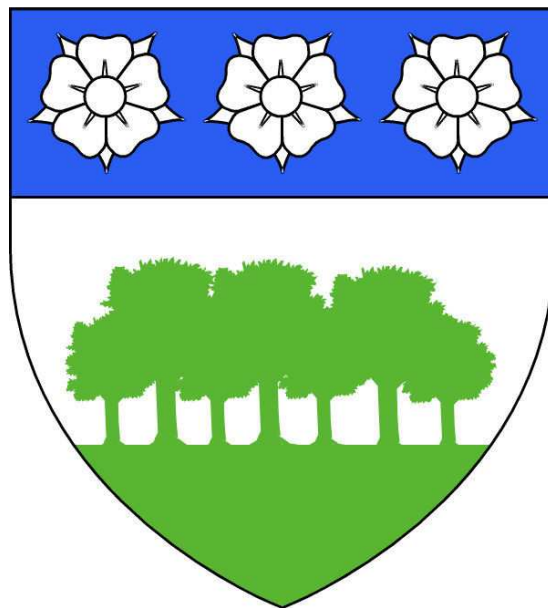


Fig. 1. Coat of arms of the town of Bondy

M É M O I R E S HISTORIQUES

CONCERNANT
L'ORDRE ROYAL ET MILITAIRE
DE SAINT-LOUIS,
ET L'INSTITUTION
DU MÉRITE MILITAIRE.

par Meslin

*Res gerere, & captos ostendere civibus hostes,
Attingit solium Jovis, & cælestia tentat.*

HORACE, Épil. XVII, liv. 1.



A PARIS,
DE L'IMPRIMERIE ROYALE.

M. DCCLXXXV.

TABLES CHRONOLOGIQUES

Des Officiers d'Administration de l'Ordre Royal & Militaire de SAINT-LOUIS, depuis la création en 1693, jusqu'à présent 1784.

D A T E S DE LEURS PROVISIONS ou de leurs emplois dans les comptes de l'ORDRE.	OFFICIERS établis en 1693. <i>Chanceliers.</i>
.....1693.	M. BOUCHERAT (Louis), Chancelier de France.
.....1699.	M. DE PONTCHARTRAIN (Louis-Phelypeaux), Chancelier de France.
.....1714.	M. VOISIN (Denys), qui étoit Secrétaire d'État, lui succède & exerce jusqu'en 1719.
	<i>Trésoriers.</i>
8 Mai 1693.	Du Fresnoy , Conseiller du Roi en ses Conseils d'État, premier Commis du Secrétaire d'État de la Guerre. <i>Mort en 1698.</i>
15 Février 1698.	Charpentier . <i>Mort en 1703.</i>
14 Mars 1703.	De Tourmont . <i>Mort en 1715.</i>
18 Avril 1705.	Pinsonneau (Matthieu), Conseiller du Roi en ses Conseils, Maître ordinaire en la Chambre des Comptes, premier Commis

Dd ij

D A T E S
de leurs provisions, &c.

Suite des Officiers d'Administration.

du Secrétaire d'État de la Guerre, & depuis Secrétaire du Conseil de la Guerre pendant la Régence. *Mort en 1747.*

Greffiers.

8 Mai 1693.

LEFEBVRE, Conseiller du Roi, Contrôleur général des Bâtimens & Jardins de Sa Majesté, Arts & Manufactures de France, Intendant & Contrôleur général de l'argenterie, menus-plaisirs & affaires de la Chambre du Roi. *Mort en 1698.*

Avril 1698.

LEFEBVRE (Nicolas-Philippe), Intendant & Contrôleur général en survivance, de l'argenterie, menus-plaisirs & affaires de la Chambre de Sa Majesté. *Mort en 1750.*

Huissier.

8 Mai 1693.

DE LA PRÉE, Aide-maréchal-général-des-logis des Camps & Armées du Roi.

Il a exercé jusqu'en 1719.

OFFICIERS créés en 1719.

Chancelier-Garde du Sceau.

15 Avril 1719.

M. D'ARGENSON, Garde des Sceaux de France. *Mort en 1721.*

15 Mai 1721.

M. D'ARGENSON (René-Louis de Voyer de Paulmy), Conseiller d'État, Intendant en Haynault. *Retiré en 1721.*



