

N° 64

JACQUES NÈVE
Horloger d'Art

+ 32 477 27 19 08 - jneve@horloger.net - www.horloger.net

**LARGE MIRROR FOR DEPARTMENT STORES
WITH PRECISION REGULATOR**



United States, circa 1870

Height 91" (2m30), Width 30" (77cm), Depth 11" (28cm)





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Very unusual and large precision regulator in a gilt-framed wooden and stucco mirror, with shell and scrolls decorations above. The whole mirror is mounted on hinges, opening to the pine and hardwood case containing the massive cast-iron base of the clock movement and its accessories.

Painted steel dial with Roman numerals for the hours and outside railing for the minutes and seconds. The three hands for the hours, minutes and seconds of blued steel, the seconds hand centre-sweeping.

The movement specially made for this unusual decorative mirror, of two thick brass plates held by four turned iron pillars, with two main barrels for a more even and regular motion, powered by two cast-iron weights maintained by two pulleys each, allowing them a running time of 33 days between windings. A simplified Maltese cross system – typical American Design – will stop overwinding on one end, or a drop of the weights to the bottom of the frame on the other end. Dead-beat Graham-type anchor escapement, steel suspension, polished brass-covered pendulum bob and pinewood pendulum rod.

This regulator with a mirror frame, or mirror with a regulator, was very likely made as a special order for a Department Store or a commercial gallery of the period from the East Coast. The type of movement and the way of its fitting into the case is quite typical of American clockmaking of the second half of the 19th C, particularly in Boston or New York.

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