Fusee striking ebonised bracket clock, James Reynolds, London



An elegant Regency twin fusee bracket clock by James Reynold, London, dated c.1830. The clock is in excellent condition, and has clearly been well looked after over the years. Hence the case has not needed restoration, but still retains the patina of its age; the doors shut perfectly and have the old keys.

The ebonised case bears hallmark Regency styling, with a shallow champfer top surmounted by a gilt urn finial. The restrained geometric brass stringing contrasts strongly with the ebonised background. The door with brass stringing to frame the arched dial, and with brass inset canted corners. The sides have arched fishscale sound frets, backed by green silk (the colour of which can be changed to suit any decor).

The two-train chain fusee movement has an anchor escapement, striking on a large bell and with a trip repeat cord, to repeat the last hour at will. The backplate of the movement is signed for the maker in engraved script. The pendulum has a uppermost regulating nut, and also a retaining nut for ease of transport.

The silvered 5½-inch arched dial is well engraved with Roman numerals and the maker's name. Fine steel hands.

Height: 16¼ inches (41cms)
Width: 9 inches (23 cms)
Depth 6¾ inches (17cms)

From records of the Clockmakers' Company, we know that James Reynolds took on three apprentices – he was master to Thomas York in 1770, John Raworth in 1771, and William Ray in

1776. This James may have been his son.