

director George Méliès ... but that's for a different trade journal.

If you have kids, or grandkids, it would behoove you to take some family time to watch this wonderful clockmaker's story. Even if there are no children available, I can assure you that this is your movie. Definitely a film for all ages! Not a "kids' movie" by any means but just a fantastically enjoyable story.

—Dustin Hicks (TX)

### 1837 Charles Stratton Warranty Paper

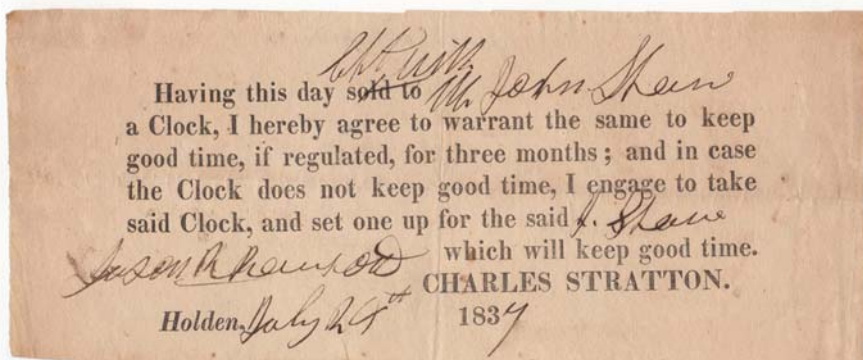
I often attend antiquarian book shows in search of horological books and ephemera. On April 5 at The Manhattan Vintage Book & Ephemera Fair in New York City, a New Hampshire dealer rushed to tell me that he had a "clock thing" I might want. He handed me a 3.5" x 8.25" yellowed paper, protected in a clear plastic sleeve.

As can be seen, this is a printed warranty form with handwritten names, date, and a small alteration changing "sold to" to "left with." It is interesting that the warranty period is just three months and that the seller seems to have provided the clock without finalizing the sale. We will never know if Charles Stratton was eventually paid or if he needed to exchange "said Clock" for another that kept better time.

I have seen at least a few shelf clocks with the interior pasted label of this Holden, MA, clockmaker. However, I never have seen this kind of separate printed form by him or any other maker. I do not know if such papers were common at the time; even if they were, I can guess that few of these small thin sheets have survived.

At the same show and from the same dealer, I also purchased a watch paper from Wm. P. Collyer of Pawtucket, RI. In addition to his name, it includes a detailed engraved image of a pocket watch, key, and seal. I find no mention of this repairer in my reference materials. I encourage other members to add these shows to their outings; important books and papers are waiting to be discovered.

—Bob Frishman (MA)



### Precision Pendulum Clocks in Germany 1730-1940—Observatories, Astronomers, Timeservices/Timestandards and Their Clocks Volume 3 (Part 1 of Section 1840-1940) by Juergen Ermert



[Published in German: *Praezisionspendeluhren in Deutschland von 1730-1940—Observatorien, Astronomen, Zeitdienststellen und ihre Uhren-Band 3 (1840-1940 Teil 1)*]; by Juergen Ermert, with a preface by Stefan Muser; published by the author [JE Verlag] in December 2013. No ISBN number stated. Hardcover (simi-leather spine); 454 pages, 21cm x 31 cm, 1094 (mostly color, mostly large) illustrations. 667

endnotes, subject, person, and location indices.

Additional information and previews at the author's website ([www.ppu-buch.de](http://www.ppu-buch.de) includes buttons to translate pages into English). Sold exclusively through Versandbuchhandel Doris Herold, Am Kühlchen 13, D-41516 Grevenbroich, Germany; Web: [www.uhren-literatur.de](http://www.uhren-literatur.de); email [gdherold@t-online.de](mailto:gdherold@t-online.de). Price Euro 146.- plus postage.

The following book review by Fortunat Mueller-Maerki was first published in *Antiquarian Horology* (the quarterly journal of the Antiquarian Horological Society), in the United Kingdom in its March 2014 issue (Vol. 35, No. 1, pages 687-689) and is reproduced here with their permission.

Hereto the unrivaled "gold standard" for thoroughness and scholarship for any publication on precision pendulum clocks (hereafter PPC) has been set by Derek Roberts, with his 2003/2004 trilogy of volumes published by Schiffer on the subject. (Before that the somewhat German centric *Präzisionspendeluhren* by Klaus Erbrich, Callwey Verlag 1978, was the only serious publication on the subject, but among the English speakers only die-hard PPC aficionados knew about that book). Derek and his coauthors expanded the published knowledge base on PPCs from 250 pages to over 800 pages and made it available to an English-speaking readership.

Recently, the German horological historian Juergen Ermert has upped the ante with the publication of the book under review. Focusing solely on objects made (or used) in "greater Germany" (i.e., including Austro-Hungary and East Prussia), he set