## Variation in Labels Used in Jeromes & Darrow Clocks and Their Relationship to the Type of Movement and Case Style – *Patrick Hagans (OH)*

While discussing a Jeromes & Darrow clock at the 2013 Cog Counter's Picnic a comment was made that this particular firm seemed to have used a number of different labels in their clocks, especially with respect to how the 'Jeromes' is displayed. I did not recall ever seeing anything written on this subject so I began documenting different labels observed in their clocks. Nine different labels were found based on how Jeromes was printed on the label. There are other label differences but this seemed the best way to easily differentiate between the various labels. The next question to answer was whether the type of label bears any relationship to the movement and case structure of the clock.

Before presenting my findings it is best to review the chronological details of the different movements and clock styles made by Jeromes & Darrow. The following data was mostly gleaned from the excellent description of this firm presented by Kenneth D. Roberts and Snowden Taylor on pages 183-200 of Eli Terry and the Connecticut Shelf Clock, 2<sup>nd</sup> Edition Revised (1994). This company formed by Chauncey and Noble Jerome and Elijah Darrow was in business from ~1827 until 1833. They were one of the most prolific users of different types of wood movements and case styles. Movements used by them include: Boardman Groaner, Noble Jerome 'thin' movement, long drop 32T escapement modified Terry 1823 movement with and w/o ivory or brass bushings, the Terry short drop 42T escapement 1823 movement, 8-day Terry movements of various drops with and without ivory or brass bushings, 30-hr. and 8-day movements with internal alarms and an alarm timepiece movement. Case styles include: Reeded pillar with scroll top (often called reeded pilaster and scroll top clock), Bronze looking glass case, long and short stenciled splat and column case, carved case, gilded case and cornice and column case with both looking glasses and painted tablets. The chronology of the various clocks is shown in the table below.

Approximate Date of Manufacture	Movement and Case Details
~1827-1828	Earliest clocks likely same as the previous firm, Jerome, Thompson & Co.: Reeded column with scroll top with Boardman Groaner movement: Groaner in Bronze Looking Glass case also likely
	produced at this time.
~1827-1828	Noble Jerome 'thin' movement in Bronze Looking Glass case (short production run)
~1828-1829	Bronze Looking Glass case with modified Terry patent movement (Type 5.112, 32T escape wheel, 15.3" drop)
~1828-1830	P&S clocks with short drop Terry Type 10.12 Ephraim Downs movement.
~1828-1830	Short pendulum clock with carved columns, splat and feet. Same Downs 10.12 movements as
~1829-1830	More short pendulum clocks with slightly later Downs 10.142 movement (Jester top clock shown as example)
1831	8-day version with both carved and stenciled columns and splat using a Terry type 4.211
	movement with various pendulum lengths
~1833	Brass bushed Terry movements introduced into various types of clock cases
~1833	Time and alarm movement introduced (shown in an Empire cornice & column case)

The various label types and the movement and cases that each is associated with are shown in the table on the next page. They follow reasonably close to the chronological order presented in the above table. Photographs of each label type are shown at the end of this manuscript. As mentioned above only the difference on how Jeromes is printed on the label is used to characterize each label. Examination of the photographs shows that there are some other differences (outlined later) but these are not adequate to differentiate all of the labels from each other.

LABEL TYPE	JEROMES STYLE ON JEROMES & DARROW LABELS	WOODEN MOVEMENT TYPE/CASE STYLE	WHERE OBSERVED
_	JEROMES	Groaner (Bronze Looking Glass, Reeded Pilaster & Scroll)	Mine (Bronze Looking Glass w Groaner mov't.), Fig. 28 in CB, p. 149 in Br, Groaner in Delaney Reeded Pilaster & Scroll clock
7	JEROMEs	Noble Jerome 'Thin' (Bronze Looking Glass)	Mine, Fig. 32 in CB, Fig. 30 in CB, Fig. 87D in R&T, p. 134 in Br, eBay 2007, 3 from Chris Tahk; One observed at Cog Counters' Aug. 21, 2014 picnic; Tom Barrett's Bronze Looking Glass; Schmitt auction 051715 thin movt in bronze looking glass case
3	JEROME's	Noble Jerome 'Thin' (Bronze Looking Glass)	Chris Tahk example
4	JEROMEs	Terry 30 Hr. and 8-Day (Half Column and Splat & Bronze Looking Glass)	Figs. 55 and 66 in CB, Figs. 88, 93, 94, 95B in R&T, p. 96, 99, and 145 in Br, eBay case_122613, Horton auction 12/31/13, eBay clock 02/16/14, 8 day clock Schmitt auction April, 2014, eBay 30 hr, column and splat; 04/22/14; another eBay column and splat (long drop) 09/06/14; 8-day long drop carved half columns and splat seen on eBay 9/17/14; long drop half column and splat (long drop) 09/06/14; 8-day long drop half column and splat core can eBay 9/17/14; long drop half column and splat core eBay 10-4-14; column and splat core abay 10/27/14; long drop half column and splat tery 30 hr. on eBay 10-4-14; column and splat case only on eBay 10-2014; Similar to previous also on eBay 10-20-14 #2; Half column and splat case on eBay 11/26/14; Bronze Looking Glass case; column and splat case on eBay 11/26/14; Bronze Looking Glass wTerry 30 hr. now to ne Bay 12/9/14; Bronze Looking Glass w Terry 30 hr now to ne Bay 12/9/14; Bronze Looking Glass w Terry 30 hr now to ne Bay 12/9/14; Bronze Looking Glass w Terry 30 hr now to ne Bay 12/9/14; Terry Long Drop Mov't.
5a & 5b	Jeromes'	Short Drop Terry and Time & Alarm Movements (Miniatures and Stencilled Half Column and Splat ); 2 different labels observed with this type (see Ly, Vol. 3 American Clocks, p. 47 and p. 78)	Figs. 41, 60 and 63 in CB, Fig. 91B in R&T, p. 16, 25 and 102 in Br, Delaney short drop Terry stencilled half column & splat, short drop stencilled column and splat on eBay 7/12/14; short drop stencilled column and splat on eBay 10/6/14; Tom Barrett's Jester top stencilled half column short drop Terry clock; Ly, Vol. 3 American Clocks, p. 47 (Terry short drop mov't. in miniature column and cornice case) and p. 78 (time and alarm mov't. in column and splat case); short drop Terry mov't in stencilled column and configer to 23/15/15; Schmitt auction 051715 time and alarm movt in carved pillar and splat case
9	Jeromes	Terry Short Drop (P&S, Carved Half-Column and Splat)	Figs. 36, 38 and 46 in CB, Figs. 89C and 90B in R&T, p. 52 in Br
L	Jeromes	Terry 8-day short drop (Half Column and Splat)	Fig. 53 in CB, Fig. 51 in CB (a 'maybe' as drop is not indicated)
×	JEROMES (Brass Bushed)	Various	p. 39, Fig. 68 in CB (miniature case with time & alarm movement) Brass Bushed on the label; p. 194, Fig 92B in R&T (Terry 30 hr. long drop in Empire style case) (cannot see entire label to see if it states Brass Bushed"); p. 198, Fig. 97 in R&T (Terry 8-day, case not shown) Brass Bushed on label; eBay clock 7/27/14, std. steencilled half column and splat w/30 hr. Terry style movt, (missing), label states bushed movt; eBay clock 10/28/14, std. steencilled half column and splat w/30 hr. Terry novt. Brass bushed on label is over pasted with a blank piece of paper

Connecticut Shelf Clock, Kenneth D. Roberts and Snowden Taylor, 2nd Edition, Ken Roberts Publishing Company, 1994. Br = Good for a Time, The Christopher **CB** = From Rags to Riches to Rags: The Story of Chauncey Jerome, Chris H. Bailey, NAWCC Bulletin Supplement #15, Spring, 1986. **R&T** = Eli Terry and the R. Brown Research Archive of Early American Wooden Works Shelf Clocks, G. Russell Oechsle, Ed., Oechsle-Brown Publications, 2011. **Type 1** label uses **JEROMES** where all letters are capitalized. They are found in both Bronze Looking Glass and reeded column and scroll cases containing Boardman Groaner movements.

**Type 2** label uses **JEROMEs'** where a small 's' followed by an apostrophe is used to differentiate from the Type 1 label. Only bronze looking glass cases with Noble Jerome 'thin' movements were found to use this label form.

**Type 3** label appears to be a potential anomaly where the apostrophe now is put before the 's' to give **JEROME's**. Only 1 example has been found this far in exactly the same type of clock as uses Type 2 labels. This clock does have an odd construction detail where a board is attached to the top with dowel holes in it. Perhaps this was used as a stacking spacer but this feature would be unlikely to warrant a label change.

**Type 4** label is by far the most common. Now the 's' is a superscript with an apostrophe after it: **JEROME**<sup>S'</sup>. Column and splat (either carved or stenciled) cases with a Terry 30-hr or 8-day long drop movement make up this category. In addition, bronze looking glass cases with 30-hr. Terry long drop movements also use this label.

**Type 5** label was used in all short drop cases, with stenciled columns and splats, 'jester' tops or column and cornice construction. Here the letters after the 'J' in Jerome are not capitalized and there is an apostrophe after the 's'. In addition the entire name is italicized: *Jeromes'*. Two types of labels are found here depending on whether a Terry 30-hr. short drop movement (Type 5a) or the Jerome time and alarm movement (Type 5b) is used. The 2 labels are also very different in appearance (see photographs). Note that the time and alarm movement can be housed in a carved column and splat case (i.e., any case with the time and alarm movement has the Type 5b label except if 'Brass Bushed' is included on the label).

**Type 6** label differs from Type 5 in that the apostrophe is left off: *Jeromes*. This label appears to be reserved for short drop cases containing 30-hr. Terry movements: P&S and carved half column and splat. It is interesting that the carved cases were differentiated (label-wise) from the other types of cases housing the Terry short drop movement (see Type 5a above).

**Type 7** label is similar to Type 6 except the name is not italicized: **Jeromes**. Only 1 definite and another possible clock has been observed with this label. The definite clock is a carved column and splat case with an 8-day Terry short drop movement. The drop in the other clock is uncertain as the movement is missing and it contains a mirror instead of a reverse-painted tablet containing a pendulum 'eye' to estimate the drop length.

**Type 8** label was considered an exception until more examples were found as it appeared to be the same as Type 1. All of the labels state that the movement is 'Brass Bushed' which is placed between 'Improved' and 'Clocks' (see the photograph of the Type 8 label on the last page) and this label has been found in clocks with various types of movements and cases. Movement examples include 30-hr. and 8-day Terry and the time and alarm movement. It appears Jeromes & Darrow considered clocks containing brass bushed movements unique enough to warrant their own label. Interestingly, the data suggests that ivory bushed movement clocks did not warrant a different label from their non-ivory bushed movement counterparts.

With respect to overall label structure there are 3 types. The 3-panel structure of labels 1-4, 7 and 8 look very much like a palladian window or perhaps triptych art. These all have in the center panel IMPROVED CLOCKS MADE AND SOLD BY JEROMES & DARROW, BRISTOL, CONN., WARRANTED IF WELL USED. In some cases the state name is not abbreviated. On label 8, MANUFACTURED is substituted for MADE. The patriotic eagle is perched at the top of the center section. Directions are placed to the right and left of the center

section. Labels 5a and 6 have IMPROVED CLOCKS placed in a semicircle around where the cast iron bell is placed. Label 5b was made specifically for the alarm timepiece.

In conclusion, it would appear that Jeromes & Darrow were very explicit about which label to use in a specific clock. In many cases the differences were small (compare, for example, Types 1-4). This certainly made the typesetter's job easier. Still, a separate printing run was required for each type of label which would have added some extra, albeit small, cost to the clock. More examples are required to verify some of the conclusions made concerning movement and case style vs. label type. If you own a Jeromes & Darrow clock I would appreciate hearing from you. A photograph of the label and clock would be great. If this is not possible a word description of the label type, movement and case type would be fine. In the case of 8-day clocks, please indicate the drop as this is an important factor for determining label type. You can send the information to either my home or email address found on the Cog website or in the Newsletters. A telephone call would also work fine. Finally, I would like to thank everyone thus far that has provided me with information on their Jeromes & Darrow clocks. Your help is greatly appreciated!



## Photographs of Each Type of Label

TYPE 1

Improved IDE AND SOLD JEROMEs' & DARRO BRISTOL. CONNECTICU 2022年12月

TYPE 2

proved Improved CLOCKS, E AND NOLD MADE AND SOLL JEROME" & DARROW JEROME'S & DARROW BRISTOL, CONNECTICI BRISTO , CONN. 



TYPE 4





TYPE 6

TYPE 7



TYPE 8