

NEW PUBLICATION

The Life and Travels of James Upjohn

Edited by John Leopold and Roger Smith

Upjohn visited The Hague on several occasions, describing the Binnenhof.

After Gerrit van Giessen, *Het Binnen Hof* (c.1730)
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The Antiquarian Horological Society and the Worshipful Company of Clockmakers are delighted to announce their joint publication of this remarkable document.

Dating from 1784, this rarest of manuscripts, 'A Short Account of the Life and Travels of James Upjohn of Red-Lion Street, Clerkenwell, Clock & Watch-maker and Goldsmith by Company', offers Upjohn's first-hand insight into the contemporary state of the British and Continental watch trade in the mid-eighteenth century.

Upjohn was at the heart of a major London watchmaking enterprise, supplying retailers throughout England. He sought to extend his trade to the Continent as well, making a series of wonderfully recorded and picaresque journeys through northern Europe for this purpose.

This publication combines significant scholarly work on the part of the late John Leopold, in whose memory the book is published, and more recent work by Roger Smith, particularly regarding Upjohn's involvement in the export of watches and clocks to India and China.

It offers a detailed and deeply researched introduction to the manuscript, with a high-resolution photographic copy of the original text, ranged opposite a modernised and easily read transcription, and a modern index. The text is illustrated by a series of images showing some of the extraordinary objects described in the text, and contemporary views of various key locations from Upjohn's journeys.

This is a book which significantly widens our knowledge of the eighteenth century watch trade, and the AHS and the Clockmakers' Company are inviting commitments to subscribe for a limited number of copies to be printed. The names of subscribers will be printed in the book.

Expected to be published in autumn 2015, the book will be of 400 pages, case-bound, 212 x 138.5mm, with printed dust-jacket, in a cloth cover and on 150 gram silk paper. The price for subscribers is expected to be £65 plus postage and packing. Those interested are asked to e-mail upjohn@ahsoc.org with their contact details or call the AHS Secretary on 01580 200155.