

Finch & C^o



WALTER POTTER ANTHROPOMORPHIC TAXIDERMY TABLEAUX OF TWO RED SQUIRRELS

A WALTER POTTER ANTHROPOMORPHIC TAXIDERMY TABLEAUX OF TWO RED SQUIRRELS ENGAGED IN A FENCING MATCH
LATE 19TH CENTURY

SIZE: 36CM HIGH, 61CM WIDE, 14CM DEEP - 14¼ INS HIGH, 24 INS WIDE, 5½ INS DEEP

LITERATURE

THE AUSTRIAN TAXIDERMIST HERMAN PLOUCQUET'S ANTHROPOMORPHIC TABLEAUX SHOWN AT THE GREAT EXHIBITION OF 1851 WAS PROBABLY THE FIRST TIME SUCH WORK HAD BEEN SEEN PUBLICLY IN BRITAIN. HIS SIX TABLEAUX ILLUSTRATING THE STORY OF REYNARD THE FOX AMUSED QUEEN VICTORIA AND THE GENERAL PUBLIC, AND MAY WELL HAVE BEEN THE INSPIRATION FOR WALTER POTTER'S WORK. POTTER'S ANTHROPOMORPHIC TABLEAUX WERE THE MOST FAMOUS AND DISTINCTIVE ITEMS IN HIS MUSEUM IN BRAMBER, SUSSEX. IT IS FOR THESE INTRIGUING AND FASCINATING SCENES MIMICKING HUMAN ACTIVITY THAT HE IS BEST KNOWN AND REMEMBERED TODAY. LABELLED BY THE VICTORIANS AS 'HUMEROUS TAXIDERMY' POTTER'S TABLEAUX REMAIN INSPIRING SOCIAL COMMENTARY ON THE HUMAN CONDITION.