



**BUTCHOFF**  
LONDON

XVIII-XIX CENTURY  
FURNITURE & DECORATIVE ARTS



**A WHIMSICAL BLACK FOREST BOOK RACK,  
PROBABLY BY ARNOLD RUEF**

**Dimensions: H: 9 in / 23 cm | W: 27 in / 69 cm | D: 7 in / 18 cm**

**7701**



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Of adjustable form, constructed in carved Limewood, having horned owls with glass eyes, set on the folding uprights, and carved with foliates.

**Provenance:**

Brienz, in the Bernese Oberland, Switzerland was remarked upon in Baedeker's Travel Guide, as having a population of 2400, of whom 600 persons were employed as woodcarvers, to supply the tourist trade to Switzerland with mementos of the tour. A museum devoted entirely to the art of wood carving may be visited today. Arnold Ruef is noted as a specialist carver of owls in Brienz

**Literature:**

Literature; 'Swiss Carvings, The Art of the Black Forest' by Arenski, Daniels and Daniels, published by The Antique Collectors Club 2004 for similar examples