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Search for Custer's Pet Hound Is Brought Back to Minneapolis

'U' Professor Declares Cardigan Was Rescued After Being Thrown Out of Zoological Museum – Story Refutes Tale of Military Burial in East.

The search for Cardigan, General Custer's pet staghound, with the object of placing the famous animal in a definite niche in history, neared its end last night.

Although the hunt for the animal had strayed from Minneapolis yesterday when it was reported that the dog had been buried with military honors in the East, it was brought back to the University of Minnesota last night by Dr. Thomas S. Roberts, director of the zoological museum at that institution.

Cardigan Thrown Away.

"When the museum was gone over two years ago," Dr. Roberts said, "to remove specimens not of general interest, I noted the Custer dog. On account of its condition, I believe it was thrown into a pile of refuse. That, at least, was the last I saw of the dog." [6 years not 2]

Hardly had Dr. Roberts disposed of the animal, however, when Professor H. F. Nachtrieb, head of the animal biology department, furnished a new clue.

"I recall the decision to discard the specimen," he said, "but I believe, because of its historical value, a janitor named Olson was ordered to rescue it and pack it up."

Declares He Was Buried.

Mrs. M. H. French, 3338 West Thirty-second street, said yesterday that Cardigan was buried with military honors at Madison Barracks, N. Y., in 1889. According to Mrs. French, Cardigan, one mule and one man were the only survivors of the battle of the Little Big Horn. After the battle, she said, Cardigan was taken to Fort Abraham Lincoln and presented to the Eleventh infantry, accompanied that regiment to New York, and died there of old age.

Nicholas R. Murphy, Minneapolis mail carrier who was a member of the Seventh infantry, which arrived on the battlefield too late to save Custer, described the march last night.

"We were not even allowed to light matches, or talk above a whisper while we were trying to creep up on the Indians," he said. "No one was allowed to have any kind of a pet for fear it would make some noise that would give us away. I think the dog was left with the supply train some miles back or with Mrs. Custer at Fort Lincoln."

"The only survivor of the battle when we arrived there was Commanche, a horse supposed to have been ridden by a Captain Keogh. And he was wounded."

Several Dogs Remembered.

Henry F. Douglas, 4354 Fremont avenue south, president of the Great Western Grain company here, who was post trader at Fort Yates in 1876, said last night at several of the staghounds belonging to Custer were brought there from Fort Lincoln after Custer's death, and remained there for a year or more, until distributed among various friends by the widow.

The dogs were very large, Mr. Douglas said, one of them being very much larger than the rest. They were white in color, with black and tan markings, the head somewhat on the pointer type, but the ears more pendulous and set lower.

Walter A. Eggleston, vice president of the David C. Bell Investment company, also insisted that Cardigan died in Minneapolis. He owned a son of the dog, Lord Cardigan Jr., and there was also another of the pack here, he said. Fred D. Brown, who once lived on the South Side, was also known to have owned one of the dog's descendants, it developed last night.

"It's a doggone story, I guess," commented Professor Nachtrieb.