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Column 1

I am a Gen. Custer buff who formerly lived in Minneapolis, I hope you can help me find some information that I want to include in an article I'm writing for the Little Bighorn Associates Research Review. Custer's wife, Elizabeth B. Custer, writes in her book, "Boots and Saddles" (1885), of one of Custer's favorite dogs. She says, "... when the poor dog died, his new master honored him by having his body set up by the taxidermist and a place was given him in one of the public buildings in Minneapolis." Could you possibly trace to see whether the dog still exists or what happened to it?

Cardigan, Custer's staghound, "probably was moth-eaten and destroyed long ago," said Donal Empson, reference librarian at the Minnesota Historical Society. Empson and Alan Woolworth, a society chief archeologist, believe that Cardigan was given to the Minnesota Academy of Natural Sciences, a group active in the 1870s and 1880s, ended up in the old Minneapolis Public Library building and later disappeared.