### Clubs, Hatchets, Knives, and Beams:

# European American/Native American War Artifacts and the Ethics of Display

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### **Part I: Introduction**

I'm Zabelle Stodola, Carrie Zeman's co-editor for *A Thrilling Narrative of Indian Captivity:*Dispatches from the Dakota War, which the University of Nebraska Press formally released on 1 June 2012.

Unlike Carrie, who is a public historian, I'm a literary scholar who has published extensively on Indian captivity narratives, defined as stories of people captured by Native Americans. Mary and John Renville's narrative interests me so much because their captive experience was protective (among John's kin), not punitive (among enemies) like many of their fellow captives. Who the Renvilles were and what happened, or didn't happen, to them fundamentally affected how they told their story.

Apart from A Thrilling Narrative, my two most recent books are The War in Words: Reading the Dakota Conflict through the Captivity Literature (University of Nebraska Press, 2009) and Women's Indian Captivity Narratives (Penguin, 1989).

My research for both *The War in Words* and *A Thrilling Narrative* immersed me in the past and present politics of the US-Dakota War. But as a first generation immigrant to the United States with a very mixed ethnic background—English, Armenian, Irish, German Jewish—I am an outsider to Minnesota history, with no particular stake in it.<sup>2</sup> That, plus the fact that my academic qualifications lie in literature and what's called cultural studies, means that I have a different perspective than most commentators on whether purported beam fragments from the scaffold on which 38 Dakotas were hanged simultaneously on 26 December 1862 should be exhibited.<sup>3</sup>

I cannot say that my approach is necessarily more objective than those of you with close ties to the state and its history. But I can say that my subjectivity is political and professional, not personal. Thus I see the current debate in the context of artifacts connected with past white/Indian wars and with captivity narratives and other memorials (visual as well as verbal) from those conflicts. Some of these memorials include the club supposedly belonging to King Philip (Metacomet), who held Mary Rowlandson in 1675/76; and the hatchet and knife with which—according to tradition—Hannah Dustan killed and scalped (yes, scalped) her native captors in 1697; not to mention the infamous scaffold beam as well as other Dakota War-related items.

I'd like to consider—and I'd like *you* to consider—a range of questions connected with what I'm calling "the ethics of display." In this series, space precludes my ability to address all the issues below, but they are there for you to reflect on:

What if anything is intrinsically precious about these artifacts?

- Are some of them truly relics rather than inert pieces of evidence?
- Should they be accessed and displayed? If so where?
- Who should own them?
- Should they be available to researchers, descendants, and the general public or to only some of these constituents?
- Who decides?
- Do such decisions constitute censorship?
- Does display hamper or help "truth and reconciliation" efforts, especially concerning bitterly contested wars and horrific atrocities? In other words, if these items are visible, do they aid closure or do they foster further discord?
- If neither, do these objects at least perform an important purpose by conveying information and making history real?
- What functions do such artifacts serve at commemorative milestones?
- Can authenticity and provenance be definitively proved?

To explore these questions I will use information on two early American women who became the subjects of famous captivity narratives, Mary Rowlandson and Hannah Dustan, and also revisit the current controversy over displaying artifacts from the US-Dakota War, itself the subject of countless captivity narratives.<sup>4</sup>

# Part II: Mary Rowlandson, "King Philip's War Club," and Other Ritual Objects

I'm not alone in putting together hostage accounts and material objects. David Watters, an English professor at the University of New Hampshire, has constructed lesson plans showing how "ritual artifacts" can illuminate the teaching of literature, and he takes as his main case study Puritan grave markers and Mary Rowlandson's seventeenth-century captivity narrative.<sup>5</sup>

But what exactly are ritual artifacts? Watters explains that they fall into two categories, the religious and the social, "People perform rituals to create a sense of order or meaning in their lives. Just as a religious ritual artifact—such as a Catholic rosary or a Jewish prayer shawl—might be used to express and enforce an individual's religious beliefs, a social ritual artifact can express and enforce the social beliefs that permeate and organize the secular world. The program for a municipality's annual Fourth of July parade and fireworks display, for example, may reveal a ritual emphasizing how patriotism, civic pride, and community involvement provide meaning and order for residents." These examples suggest that societies imbue their chosen artifacts with symbolism and significance. Now let's look at some of these ritual artifacts and try to unpack their meanings.

The most famous of all American captivity narratives is by Mary Rowlandson, a Puritan minister's wife. In 1675/76, during King Philip's (Metacomet's) War, a confederation of Nipmucs, Narragansetts, and Wampanoags captured her and her three children in Lancaster, Massachusetts. One child died as a result of being wounded in the initial attack, but the other two and Mary herself returned to their own culture several months later (Mary and one child were ransomed, the other child escaped).

Her narrative, *The Sovereignty and Goodness of God . . .* , was a Puritan bestseller and came out in four editions in 1682: three in New England and one, under the title *A True Narrative . . .*, in London. 
It has been regularly republished ever since, especially during turbulent times when mainstream American society needed a renewed sense of order and identity.

Rowlandson's immediate captors were two native sachems, Quinnapin and one of his wives, Weetamoo, but she met the powerful King Philip (Metacomet) while she was a hostage, and he was

responsible for allowing her to be ransomed for twenty pounds. The "war club" is presently housed at the Fruitlands Museum in Harvard, Massachusetts. <sup>9</sup> But Michael Volmer, the museum curator, admits "When and where the club, presently assumed to be Philip's, came from is something of a mystery." Although some oral and written provenance exists, all he can conclude is that in his "estimation the club was manufactured during the seventeenth century, in all likelihood by a Native American." <sup>10</sup>

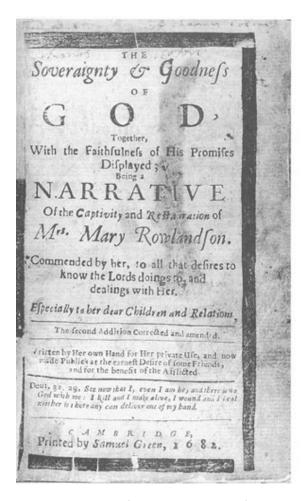


### The artifact known as King Philip's War Club. Fruitlands Museum, Inc., via Google Images.

Yet despite the club's unconfirmed authenticity and iffy provenance, it figures in one part of the museum's public program about its collections. That part is titled "Native American" and is described as being an "Introduction to New England ethnohistory. Several of the early accounts describing southern New England before 1650 will be presented and discussed. Object examination will include King Phillip's [sic] war club, the James the Printer deed and Mary Rowlandson pamphlet."<sup>11</sup>

But not only don't we know if the object belonged to King Philip (Metacomet), we don't know if it really is Native American or, for that matter, if it's even a war (as opposed to a ceremonial) club. Further, Rowlandson's narrative never refers to Metacomet holding such a club. Nevertheless, the program links an artifact that likely reinforces negative stereotypes of Native Americans as savage and violent with Rowlandson's seventeenth-century publication describing many of them in similar terms, as "Barbarous Creatures," "bloody Heathen," "Crew of Pagans," and "hell-hounds." <sup>12</sup>

The "Native American" program at Fruitlands is on a small scale, but it raises some of the same questions that the Minnesota Historical Society faces as it puts together a commemorative US-Dakota War exhibit set to open at the end of June, 2012. What to do with "highly sensitive" and "highly emotional" objects? How to strike a balanced and ethical approach involving a range of constituents and perspectives?



Title page of the second edition of Mary Rowlandson's narrative. Image from <a href="http://www.amstudy.hku.hk/rowlandson.html">http://www.amstudy.hku.hk/rowlandson.html</a> via Google Images.

#### Part III: Hannah Dustan's Story

Mary Rowlandson and Hannah Dustan share some similarities: both were seventeenth-century Puritan women captured with one or more children in a violent raid on their home, both were devastated when one of those children died from its wounds, and both were the subjects of famous captivity narratives (Rowlandson wrote her own but Dustan, who was probably illiterate, told her story to others).

However, that's where the correspondences end. Rowlandson bore her captivity as patiently as she could, believing that it was a special providence sent by God to test her faith. Dustan had not been formally received into the Puritan church at the time of her capture, so theologically and temperamentally she felt justified in literally taking matters into her own hands.

Here's what happened. In March 1697, Abenakis descended on Haverhill, Massachusetts. Thomas Dustan, Hannah's husband, was able to shepherd seven of their children to safety when the house came under attack. But he couldn't prevent the Indians from capturing Hannah and Mary Neff,

the midwife who had attended the birth of Hannah's baby girl only a few days earlier, and marching them towards Canada after killing the newborn.

Held on an island near Penacook, New Hampshire, Hannah masterminded a plan with Neff and another English prisoner to kill their captors (mostly women and children) and succeeded in slaying ten of them with a hatchet. But instead of immediately fleeing to safety in a canoe, they spent precious time scalping the corpses. Was it out of revenge, righteousness, fear, or greed? Probably some combination.

What we do know is this: from 1694 to 1696, the Massachusetts Bay Colony had a bounty for Indian scalps on its books. Even though the bounty had been repealed a few months before Hannah was captured, Thomas Dustan successfully petitioned the authorities for a cash reward for his wife and her accomplices. She received twenty-five pounds—a huge amount at the time— and her partners each received half that sum. The Court also presented Hannah with a pewter tankard as thanks for her actions. <sup>14</sup>



The pewter tankard given to Hannah Dustan by the Great and General Court of Massachusetts. Held in the Buttonwoods Museum, Haverhill, Massachusetts. Image taken from <a href="http://minerdescent.com/2012/04/06/hannah-dustin-hero-or-cold-blooded-killer/">http://minerdescent.com/2012/04/06/hannah-dustin-hero-or-cold-blooded-killer/</a> via Google Images.

Hannah Dustan's story is so extraordinary that it has been retold and refashioned countless times, but it has always been controversial. Was she an example of "outraged maternity" driven to extremes by the brutal death of her baby (a heroine), or was she a violent, greedy vigilante (a villain)?<sup>15</sup> From contemporary versions of her story by the eminent Puritan minister Cotton Mather, to accounts by classic writers like Nathaniel Hawthorne and Henry Thoreau, to a 1957 portrayal in the Wonder Woman comic series, Dustan has captured the popular imagination with a vengeance (sorry about those puns).<sup>16</sup>





Information on this and other versions of the story at <a href="http://tinyton.org/hannahbio.htm">http://tinyton.org/hannahbio.htm</a>. Image via Google Images

## Part IV: Hannah Dustan: Commemoration and Controversy

It's the hatchet and the knife that really get people going. When I visited the Haverhill Historical Society over twenty years ago, it displayed the (or I should really say, "a") hatchet blade and also sold a postcard of it. I still have the postcard which reads, "Hatchet Used by Hannah Duston to Kill the Ten Indians in March, 1697." A booklet called "The Story of Hannah Duston," prepared by the Duston-Dustin Family Association in 1984, was also on sale in the gift shop. It contains a photo of a knife with the caption "Knife used by Hannah Duston in escape" and of an accompanying, presumably authenticating, document. Both sources make definitive claims about authenticity, but not on a very firm basis.

Here's what the website RoadsideAmerica.com says in its profile "Hannah Duston's Whackin' Hatchet":

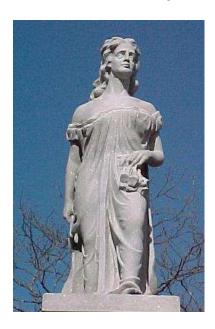
"Long after she was dead, the 'Heroine of Haverhill' was honored with <u>a statue in town</u> as a symbol of motherly rage (the Indians brained her baby). Haverhill also hung onto her relics. The Buttonwoods Museum [at the Haverhill Historical Society] displays several in a special case, including the hatchet head used by Hannah to kill her captors, and the knife she used to scalp them.

The curator told us that at least five other hatchet heads claim to be Hannah's, but she was fairly certain that the one in the museum is genuine. She wasn't as sure about the 'scalp bag' in which Hannah carried home her grisly human trophies, so it's only displayed during the Duston Family's annual reunion in Haverhill. The rest of the year the museum just displays a piece of cloth from the bag. Hannah wove it herself!"<sup>17</sup>

Although there are pictures of the purported hatchet that you can locate via Google or another search engine, I have decided not to include them in this posting. Further, I don't know when RoadsideAmerica wrote its culturally insensitive profile (if you click on the link to the Haverhill statue provided in the above quotation, you'll see they have added the punch line "I'm gonna get you, suckah!"). Hopefully not recently. Access the Buttonwoods Museum homepage today at

<u>www.haverhillhistory.org</u> and you won't see a single mention of Haverhill's most infamous resident: not under "About," not under "FAQ," and definitely not under "Photo Gallery."

Dustan's story has been absorbed into popular culture, and she herself has been the subject of many artifacts, including two statues as well as a 1973 Jim Beam commemorative bottle in the company's series of bottles shaped like statues of American women. The design for the Dustan bottle is taken from the Boscawen statue (below) and is made of china, not glass. Shockingly, it uncorks at her breasts, following the decolletage shown in the statue, thus adding sexual titillation to the mix.



Hannah Duston Memorial Statue in Boscawen, New Hampshire, on the island where she killed her captors. Dedicated in 1874, it was the first permanent statue to a woman in the United States. Notice that her right hand holds the hatchet and her left hand holds several scalps. Image from <a href="http://people.usm.maine.edu/jdustin/hannah/statue/index0002.html">http://people.usm.maine.edu/jdustin/hannah/statue/index0002.html</a>, via Google Images



Hannah Dustin statue in Haverhill, Massachusetts, erected in 1879. The hatchet is in her right hand. Google Images.

Hannah Dustan and her story continue to cause controversy. In August 2006, *Eastman's Online Genealogy Newsletter* ran a feature titled "Hannah Dustin Controversy in Massachusetts," which opened with these lines, "A debate is brewing in Haverhill, Massachusetts, over an appropriate symbol to signify the city's rebirth. City fathers have seized upon the story of Hannah Dustin as a symbol of bravery. Others in the city are not so sure she deserves the honor." <sup>18</sup>

More recently, in 2008, when the New Hampshire Historical Society began selling bobblehead dolls of Hannah and of Chief Passaconaway, the man who formed the Penacook Confederacy and was a friend to the English, a furor broke out (I'm not including a picture of those dolls either). One employee quit and another resigned in protest. Interestingly, the *New Hampshire Eagle-Tribune* on 29 July 2008 had this to add, "Haverhill historian Thomas Spitalere works at the city's Buttonwoods Museum, which began selling the dolls last week. He said the dolls promote local history and he has no problem with them." Hammamm.

# Part V: Sarah Wakefield's Story

The Minnesota Historical Society is currently in the final stages of assembling its Dakota War of 1862 exhibit, but one item that will not be included is a famous hangman's noose. It is said to be the actual noose used to hang Chaska (We-chank-wash-to-don-pee), a Dakota man who protected captive Sarah Wakefield and her two children during the six-week war.<sup>20</sup> Chaska was not on the final execution list, nor was another man named Wasicun; neither should have been hanged. A soldier on duty that day said he stole Chaska's noose and the attached length of rope and kept them for seven years before donating it to the Minnesota Historical Society.<sup>21</sup>

Shortly after the execution and theft, Sarah Wakefield was outraged when she learned that her protector had been killed. She wrote a captivity narrative titled *Six Weeks in the Sioux Tepees* partly to

exonerate him and partly to explain her sympathy for Dakota people (something that seemed misplaced to most of her contemporaries).<sup>22</sup> Recently, the Minnesota History Center invited Sandee Geshick, who is Dakota, to view artifacts being considered for potential display in the exhibit. When someone asked her how she felt when she saw the noose, she replied, "Well, how would you like to see an ax that your mother was bludgeoned with?"<sup>23</sup>

### Part VI: US-Dakota War Artifacts in a Wider Context

Now I'd like to widen out the significance of local (read, mostly European American) historical societies and museums making decisions about display objects from European American and Native American wars. I've already mentioned several of these organizations: the Fruitlands Museum, the Haverhill Historical Society, the Blue Earth County Historical Society (where the 1862 scaffold beam is in storage), and the Minnesota Historical Society.

The problem is that all these groups originated in either an overt or covert desire to preserve and reflect history, yes, but also to reinforce colonial ideology. All Many of the objects the institutions now own—whether they originally belonged to natives or non-natives—were collected and preserved by non-natives as curiosities, art, spoils of war, family heirlooms, trophies, or anthropological oddities and then donated to museums or local historical societies. Pity these institutions now required to make very complex and sensitive decisions about access which they may be unprepared and untrained to do. Rather than digging in their heels, they must reach out for advice and do the best they can.

Dan Spock, the Minnesota Historical Society's museum director, acknowledges, "not only is the MHS not necessarily an expert on the events of 1862, but, given the organization's roots, it can't even pretend to be an unbiased arbiter." Therefore, the museum is not trying to establish an "official narrative" for the war because, as Spock points out, doing so would be "kind of an anachronism." Few places these days try to construct a master narrative of history. Instead, MHS is trying to tell many stories from many perspectives. This approach is in line with the efforts of anthropologists and art historians from the late twentieth century on who have encouraged museums and archives to contextualize native objects in particular, to consult the native nations from whom the objects were removed, and in some cases to return them to their culture of origin.

Of course native leaders themselves have also been increasingly active in demanding voice and representation. For example, Dakota scholar Gwen Westerman reiterates the needs for a range of approaches when she says, "With multiple perspectives on a story we can come closer to knowing the answers to those questions we have about our shared history." Further, decisions about displaying European American artifacts are now being made within a wider contextual and ethical net.

# Part VII: "Showing Basic Human Decency"

The Minnesota Historical Society is doing its part in admitting past cultural insensitivities, conversing with descendants of natives and non-natives affected by historical wrongs, fostering inclusiveness, and committing to tell "the whole story, even the ugly," as Steve Elliott, executive director of the MHS, said recently.<sup>28</sup>

But telling the whole story does not necessarily mean displaying everything. Patricia Cohen, author of a recent *New York Times* story on the controversy surrounding what to exhibit at the September 11 Memorial Museum at Ground Zero, puts it succinctly, "Everyone agrees that it is the museum's job to tell the truth. The question, though, is how much truth."<sup>29</sup> Sensitive items may be held

and made available for research, but not placed for all to see. The Blue Earth County Historical Society is also weighing the pros and cons of putting the purported scaffold beam on show even if it is authenticated.

I find it hard to believe that an organization's mindful decision not to display inflammatory objects amounts to censorship. Entire collections are always pre-selected by the donors and/or the beneficiaries; exhibits more so. Ironically, for that reason, even if a museum showed all of its holdings on a specific subject, that grouping would still be biased and prejudicial. At the very least it would be incomplete. Therefore, when an organization withholds some items from open display, it's not necessarily pandering to political correctness as some detractors claim. <sup>30</sup> It's showing basic human decency.

--Zabelle Stodola

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> While I have published mostly on Indian captivity narratives, there is a whole field now called Captivity Narrative Studies which analyzes stories of captors and captives from any background. In fact my book *The War in Words: Reading the Dakota Conflict through the Captivity Literature* (Lincoln: University of Nebraska Press, 2009) looks at various forms of confinement and captivity including the accounts of Native Americans imprisoned by European Americans after the US-Dakota War.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> In the interests of full disclosure, my husband and I own a cabin in the Superior National Forest which has been in his family since the early 1960s. Also, one set of his grandparents—long since dead—lived in St. Paul. But that's the extent of our connection to the state.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> The website <a href="http://encyclopedia2.thefreedictionary.com/cultural+studies">http://encyclopedia2.thefreedictionary.com/cultural+studies</a> provides a brief and helpful definition of cultural studies. The first sentence defines the term as an "interdisciplinary field concerned with the role of social institutions in the shaping of culture."

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> The name is variously spelled Dustan, Dustin, and Duston. I have chosen to spell it "Dustan," but later in the essay I preserve other spellings if different sources employ them. One of the best known of the US-Dakota War captivity narratives, which appeared in two editions right after the war, is by Sarah F. Wakefield. See *Six Weeks in the Sioux Tepees* (Minneapolis: Atlas, 1863 and Shakopee: Argus, 1864). For a modern edition see Kathryn Zabelle Derounian-Stodola, ed., *Women's Indian Captivity Narratives* (New York: Penguin, 1989), 237-313. My anthology also contains Rowlandson's and Dustan's accounts. I will discuss artifacts relating to Wakefield's story later in this posting.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> See Artifacts and Fiction, Workshop 7, "Ritual Artifacts," at <a href="http://edmedia.opb.org/lit/Ritual">http://edmedia.opb.org/lit/Ritual</a> Artifacts Session Guide.pdf.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup> Quoted from the "Ritual Artifacts" website.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>7</sup> Art historian Ruth B. Phillips also touches on the links between captivity narratives and collections of native artifacts in "Reading and Writing Between the Lines: Soldiers, Curiosities, and Indigenous Art Histories," *Winterthur Portfolio* 45.2/3 (Summer/Autumn 2011): 107-24.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>8</sup> For fuller information on publication history see Derounian-Stodola, *Women's Indian Captivity Narratives*, 3-6; and Neal Salisbury, ed., *The Sovereignty and Goodness of God with Related Documents* ([Bedford Series in History and Culture] Boston: Bedford, 1997).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>9</sup> In the mid nineteenth century Fruitlands was the site of a utopian experiment in communal living by the Transcendental educator Bronson Alcott (father of Louisa May, of *Little Women* fame) and his family. But the

experiment was short lived. Idealism gave way to the realities of a freezing winter in the middle of nowhere and after some months Alcott's disciples and family left. Soon even he conceded defeat, not of his ideas but of their implementation. See <a href="http://www.alcott.net/alcott/home/fruitlands.html">http://www.alcott.net/alcott/home/fruitlands.html</a> for more information.

- <sup>11</sup> See <a href="http://www.fruitlands.org/a-closer-look">http://www.fruitlands.org/a-closer-look</a>. James the Printer (Wowaus) was a Nipmuc Indian who assimilated to Puritan culture and who probably typeset or helped to typeset the second edition of Rowlandson's narrative in 1682.
- <sup>12</sup> These phrases come from the introduction and the parts of the narrative that Rowlandson labels the First and Second Removes, but she scatters similar racist tags throughout.
- <sup>13</sup> The phrases are taken from Gregory J. Scott's excellent article "The No-Win War" in the May 2012 issue of Minnesota Monthly which you can access at <a href="http://www.minnesotamonthly.com/media/Minnesota-Monthly/May-2012/The-No-Win-War/">http://www.minnesotamonthly.com/media/Minnesota-Monthly/May-2012/The-No-Win-War/</a>. See also Tim Krohn, "US-Dakota War Exhibit Raises Issues," in *Native American Times* (10 February 2012), available at <a href="http://www.nativetimes.com/life/art/6804-us-dakota-war-exhibit-raises-issues">http://www.nativetimes.com/life/art/6804-us-dakota-war-exhibit-raises-issues</a>.
- <sup>14</sup> See Derounian-Stodola, Women's Indian Captivity Narratives, 55-57.
- There's been some interesting work done on the fact that Hannah (Emerson) Dustan came from a very violent family which may have predisposed her towards violence too. Puritan culture allowed parents considerable license in using corporal punishment to discipline children, believing that it promoted greater civic control. Even so, Hannah's father, Michael Emerson, was hauled before the authorities in 1676 and fined for abusing his daughter Elizabeth, then aged eleven, whom he had brutally beaten. In 1692, still single, Elizabeth had an affair with a married man, gave birth to twins, and was accused and convicted of killing them, though she protested they had been stillborn. She was hanged in 1693 after a sensational trial. See, for example, Julie Fay, "Hannah and her Sister: The Facts of Fiction," *Prospects: An Annual of American Cultural Studies* 23 (1998): 1-21.
- <sup>16</sup> See these links for more information on the controversy about Dustan's actions as well as the many different versions of her story <a href="http://www.hawthorneinsalem.org/ScholarsForum/MMD2128.html">http://www.hawthorneinsalem.org/Literature/NativeAmericans&Blacks/HannahDuston/Literature.html</a>. See also <a href="http://minerdescent.com/2012/04/06/hannah-dustin-hero-or-cold-blooded-killer/">http://minerdescent.com/2012/04/06/hannah-dustin-hero-or-cold-blooded-killer/</a> for a really excellent overview with pictures of Dustan artifacts.
- <sup>17</sup> See "Hannah Duston's Whackin' Hatchet" at <a href="http://www.roadsideamerica.com/story/22888">http://www.roadsideamerica.com/story/22888</a> and "Hannah Duston Hometown Hero Statue" at <a href="http://www.roadsideamerica.com/story/21105">http://www.roadsideamerica.com/story/21105</a>. Both stories carry the author information "Field Review by the Team at RoadsideAmerica.com."
- <sup>18</sup> See "Hannah Dustin Controversy in Massachusetts," *Eastman's Online Genealogy Newsletter* (27 August 2006), <a href="http://blog.eogn.com/eastmans">http://blog.eogn.com/eastmans</a> online genealogy/2006/08/hannah dustin c.html, which contains other links to this debate.
- <sup>19</sup> Quoted in "Hannah Duston Bobblehead Sparks Controversy," *New Hampshire Eagle-Tribune* (29 July 2008), at <a href="http://www.eagletribune.com/newhampshire/x1876442987/Hannah-Duston-bobblehead-sparks-controversy?keyword=secondarystory">http://www.eagletribune.com/newhampshire/x1876442987/Hannah-Duston-bobblehead-sparks-controversy?keyword=secondarystory</a>, which also includes an account of the controversy.
- <sup>20</sup> For an excellent overview of Wakefield's story and the noose controversy see Curt Brown, "150 Years Later War's Wounds Still Cut Deep," *Minneapolis Star Tribune* (29 January 2012), available at <a href="http://www.startribune.com/local/138264074.html?page=2&c=y">http://www.startribune.com/local/138264074.html?page=2&c=y</a>.
- <sup>21</sup> For a further discussion of the evidence surrounding the noose and other US-Dakota War artifacts, see Carrie Reber Zeman, "A Veiled Cabinet of Curiosities: A Preliminary Report on Minnesota's 1862 Gallows Artifacts," 26 April 2012, available at <a href="http://athrillingnarrative.files.wordpress.com/2012/04/execution-artifacts-report.pdf">http://athrillingnarrative.files.wordpress.com/2012/04/execution-artifacts-report.pdf</a>.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>10</sup> See <a href="http://www.bio.umass.edu/biology/conn.river/warclub.html">http://www.bio.umass.edu/biology/conn.river/warclub.html</a>.

<sup>22</sup> See Derounian-Stodola, *War in Words*, 65-76. Thank goodness, one item that I have not seen mentioned of late as a possible exhibit item is a watch chain woven from one of Chaska's braids that John F. Meagher cut off after the execution. He donated it to the Minnesota Historical Society in 1887. I discuss this atrocity on pages 72 and 73 of *The War in Words*. Zeman's report "A Veiled Cabinet of Curiosities" (see above) discusses the watch fob at length and indicates that it has not been seen since the 1920s.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>23</sup> Quoted in Scott, "The No-Win War."

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>24</sup> For more information, see "Our (Museum) World Turned Upside Down: Re-presenting Native American Arts" (part of "The Problematics of Collecting and Display, Part 1"), by art historians Janet Catherine Berlo and Ruth B. Phillips, *The Art Bulletin*, 77.1 (March 1995): 6-10.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>25</sup> Quoted in Scott, "The No-Win War."

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>26</sup> Quoted in Scott, "The No-Win War."

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>27</sup> Gwen N. Westerman, "Foreword," in Renville, *A Thrilling Narrative*, edited by Zeman and Derounian-Stodola, xiii.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>28</sup> Quoted in Scott, "The No-Win War."

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>29</sup> See Patricia Cohen, "At 9/11 Museum, Talking Through an Identity Crisis," *New York Times* (3 June 2012), 1, 20-21.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>30</sup> Incidentally, although I use the term "political correctness" here because that's what many skeptics use, I loathe the phrase for its negative connotations. I much prefer "cultural sensitivity" since it better reflects the quality of genuine social empathy.