## CHARLES HARPER WEBB

as Black Hills gold—showering down. his bloody boots, his hair—yellow his hands into brown earth, and raised "Watch this!" he roared, thrust

knives, the Sioux braves rampaged in. as, swinging tomahawks and scalping twitching at his feet. "Look!" he cried alone and laughed, his horse death-

heard his soldiers' shrieks. He stood cracking, sword flailing, he barely notes, he never flinched. Colt pistol When Little Big Horn blew its sourest

Ulysses Grant grabbed General Lee's. with both hands, the way that drunk between his feet, not snatching it a conquered general's sword

like savages. He dreamed of gripping screeched war-cries, and pranced bronze faces breaking into grins, over his head while Indian scouts,

feet dangling like a scorpion's tail He walked on his hands, too, Harpur Palate: a Literary Journal, Vol. 14, Iss. 2 [2014], Art. 45

at full gallop, as his soldiers cheered. He held this posture on horseback,

inverto!—his boots were in the air. to scrutinize a track; then—prestothe West Point rear, he would stoop Sent to Indian Territory after bringing up

## **CUSTER'S LAST HAND-STAND**