

0. READ MORE ABOUT IT - Story Preface

1. MURDER AT HARVARD

2. ATTEMPTED COVER-UP

3. AN ASTONISHING DISCOVERY

4. WEBSTER TRIED FOR MURDER

5. A DEATH SENTENCE

6. READ MORE ABOUT IT



Dr. Nathan Keep, a dentist who greatly helped the prosecution in the trial of Dr. John Webster for the murder of Dr. George Parkman, created "Casts of the Superior and Inferior Maxillae of George Parkman." This piece of evidence—a wax mold which [Dr. Keep donated](#) to the Harvard Dental School in 1867—is now part of the Harvard Dental School Museum Collection. Image online via the Center for the History of Medicine at Harvard's [Countway Library](#).

MORE INTERESTING LINKS

- [Webster's family](#) received help from a most unlikely source after his trip to the gallows. Dr. Parkman's widow raised funds to help Webster's wife and children.
- A Harvard law student who attended the trial thought the verdict against Webster was wrong. [Here's his opinion.](#)
- Some 20th century writers think [Judge Shaw](#) went too far in his jury instruction.

READ ABOUT IT

- Schama, Simon. [Dead Certainties](#). New York: Alfred A. Knopf, 1991.
- Dr. Ed Papenfuss, the State Archivist for Maryland, has created an excellent [web site](#) on the Parkman murder.

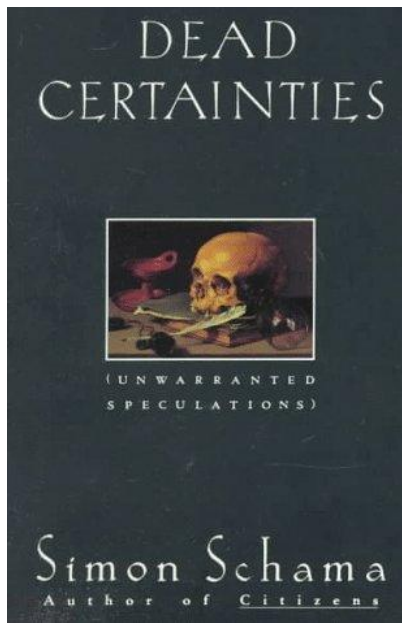
See [Alignments to State and Common Core standards for this story online at:](#)

<http://www.awesomestories.com/asset/AcademicAlignment/READ-MORE-ABOUT-IT-Murder-at-Harvard-John-Webster-Story>

See [Learning Tasks for this story online at:](#)

<http://www.awesomestories.com/asset/AcademicActivities/READ-MORE-ABOUT-IT-Murder-at-Harvard-John-Webster-Story>

Media Stream



Dead Certainties by Simon Schama

Image online, courtesy the [amazon.com](https://www.amazon.com) website.

View this asset at:

<http://www.awesomestories.com/asset/view/Dead-Certainties-by-Simon-Schama>