

ENDNOTE 9

When A War-Party Went To Windham In May 1756

The closest thing to a first-hand account that I know of, relating to this event, appears in *Parson [Thomas] Smith's Journal* (see complete reference below*), pp. 165-168 passim.

“[May] 14. This morning one Brown was killed and Winship was wounded and scalped at [New] Marblehead [now Windham], Manchester fired upon them and we hope killed an Indian, as did Capt. Skillin another. The Indians fled affrighted and left five packs, a bow and a bunch of arrows, and several other things.” [Many details follow, but **no mention at all of Polin** nor of any individual Indian, neither leader nor follower.] “Manchester was the hero of the action” [but **no reasons why** given].

“[May] 23. Sunday. Had a contribution in favor of Jos. Knights” [who had escaped May 7 from his **second** Indian captivity, and had hastily returned to warn the English settlements that **more** attacks were imminent].

“[June] 4. Peter [Smith] (who has discontinued preaching at [New] Marblehead three Sabbaths past by reason of the Indians) went [back] there today.” [**Peter** Smith was **Thomas** Smith's son. In December 1755, **Peter** started to live & preach at New Marblehead (now Windham) as unofficial pastor, becoming ordained there in 1762. **Thomas** was the longtime official pastor of Falmouth's (now Portland's) First Parish Church (long before it changed from Congregationalist to Unitarian). Thomas's father / Peter's grandfather had run the Colony's *Truck-House* (trading-post) near Union Falls on the Saco River (in now Dayton ME), for **friendly** Indians. Thomas himself **invested** (for profit & patriotism) in outfitting **scalp-bounty-hunting** *scouts* (scouting-parties), against **hostile** Indians.]

*From William Willis, editor (1849): JOURNALS OF THE REV. THOMAS SMITH & THE REV. SAMUEL DEANE. (Portland: Joseph S Bailey). Pp. 165-168 passim quoted.