

MILITARY HISTORY OF SOULE FAMILY - Part I - COLONIAL ERA

By

Colonel John Soule, Family Historian

And

Dr. Marie G. Wanek, Professor of History
St. Joseph College - Emmitsburg, Maryland

The American Colonial Period stands unique in history for its evolution of new and fundamental ideas in social, political and religious fields. The pioneer settlements developed a culture which, stemming from old world ideas, produced a civilization on which was founded the America of to-day. Each individual contributed his or her part. Some were outstanding leaders recognized by the history books; others were less spectacular but none-the-less strong men with a devotion to principle and a readiness to risk life and property. Full appreciation of the influence of contemporary history on colonial developments can best be appreciated by the following chronological comparison which indicates family participation to the extent known to us in 1967:

- 1607 - Jamestown, Virginia, founded 13 May 1607 by a company of 143 Englishmen arriving in the "Susan Constant" (100-tons), the "God Speed" (40-tons) and the "Pinnacle" (20-tons). Captain John Smith was an outstanding leader of this group.
- 1609 - Henry Hudson, English navigator and explorer, entered New York Bay in his ship "Half Moon" on 3 Sep 1609 seeking a passage to China; sailed about 150 miles up the river now bearing his name to approximately the present site of Albany.
(NOTE: New York Bay and the Hudson River were probably first discovered in 1524 by Giovanni da Verrezano, an Italian navigator; later seen in 1525 by Esteban Gomez, a Portugese; still later by others as there is in Paris a map dated 1570 showing in considerable detail the area near the mouth of the Hudson River.)
- 1614 - Atlantic Coast explored and mapped by Captain John Smith. His book "Description of New England" (London 1616) was used by the Pilgrims in directing their course to New England and finding a place to settle.
- 1615 - The New Netherland Company, under a charter from the States-General of Holland, built a storehouse and a fort on Manhattan Island and a few huts sprang up around it.
- 1620 - The 180-ton MAYFLOWER of Harwich, Christopher Jones, master; sailed 6 Sep 1620 from Plymouth, England, making her landfall on the outer beach of Cape Cod 10 Nov 1620 (old style). She dropped anchor the following day inside the tip of the cape (Provincetown Harbor) with 102 passengers and crew including Oceanus Hopkins, born at sea, and our immigrant ancestor GEORGE¹ SOULE (ca1597-1680). There the famed Mayflower Compact was signed by 41 members of the ship's company. After a month of exploration, the Pilgrims landed at Plymouth, Massachusetts, on 11 Dec 1620 (old style) or 21 Dec 1620 (new style). The latter date is now celebrated as Forefather's Day.

MILITARY HISTORY OF SOULE FAMILY - Part I - COLONIAL ERA, continued

- 1623 - New Netherland formally established in June as a province of the Dutch West India Company. The following year about 30 protestant Walloon families arrived with the bulk establishing Fort Orange (Albany, N. Y.). By 1625 the New Amsterdam Colony had about 200 inhabitants; in 1626 Director General Peter Minuit arrived with more colonists and formally purchased Manhattan from the Indians with bright cloth, beads and other trinkets to the value of about \$24; erected Fort Amsterdam at the lower end of Manhattan Island and made New Amsterdam the seat of government.
- 1628 - Colony of the Massachusetts Bay chartered to comprise the most northern and western parts of the present Commonwealth of Massachusetts plus New Hampshire (set apart 1679) and Maine (until 1820). Sometimes called the "New Colony" to distinguish from the "Old Colony" of New Plymouth. By 1630 the City of Boston was incorporated after early settlement there and at Salem.
- 1628 - Acadia (Nova Scotia) and Quebec captured from the French by English forces.
- 1632 - Treaty of St. Germaine ceded Nova Scotia and Canada to France, marking the formal beginning of intermittent hostilities which involved the New England colonists until 1763 when the Peace of Paris established the undisputed dominion of England over Canada and New Foundland.
- 1634 - Maryland was founded in March. Later in the year, Captain John Stone, master of a trading vessel bound from Plymouth to Virginia, was killed in or near the mouth of the Connecticut River by Pequot (Pequin or Pequod) Indians. This was the first overt act but steadily increasing hostilities eventually resulted in the PEQUOT WAR of 1637.
- 1637 - 1 May - Connecticut General Court formally declared war on the Pequot Indians following several attacks by the indians which resulted in substantial Connecticut casualties.
- 10 May - Ninety Englishmen under Captain John Mason sailed from Hartford accompanied by Uncas, the Mohegan (Mohican) chief, with 80 to 100 of his Indians. At Saybrook they were joined by Captain John Underhill with 20 men from Massachusetts.
- 26 May - Captains Mason and Underhill captured a supposedly impregnable Pequot fort at what is now Groton, Connecticut, with the above forces plus several hundred Narragansett Indians who had joined the expedition. Some six or seven hundred Pequots perished; seven were captured and seven escaped at a cost to the attackers of two slain out-right and about twenty wounded. The remaining Pequots fled westward.
- 1 Jun - Captain Stoughton and 120 more men from Massachusetts Bay Colony arrived and, with Captain Mason and 40 of his men, pursued the scattered Pequots to a swamp in Fairfield, Connecticut, where the Indians were routed. Some 60 or 70 broke through English lines and escaped. The balance were killed or taken prisoner.
- 7 Jun - Plymouth General Court voted to send fifty men under Lt. William Holmes as commander and Reverend Thomas Prince as chaplain to the aid of Connecticut in their offensive against the Pequots. GEORGE¹ SOULE (ca 1597-1680) was one of the immediate volunteers. When this force was ready to march "they had word to stay; for the enemy was as good as vanquished and there would be no need." (NOTE: The authors have not explored the interesting question as to why Plymouth Colony was so slow to react when their more remote colleagues of the Massachusetts Bay Colony had two troop contingents in the field much earlier.)

MILITARY HISTORY OF SOULE FAMILY - Part I - COLONIAL ERA, continued

- 1639 - Plymouth Colony established representative government to replace the general assembly of all freemen. The towns represented besides Plymouth were Duxbury (established 7 Jun 1637) adjoining to the north, Barnstable (established 5 Mar 1638), Sandwich (established 6 Mar 1638) and Yarmouth (established 7 Jan 1639) on Cape Cod, Taunton (established 3 Mar 1639 - when called Cohannett) on the Narragansett Bay watershed and Scituate (established 1 Jul 1633).
- 1643 - The original Colony of the Massachusetts Bay was divided into four counties incorporated 10 May 1643: Essex, Middlesex, Suffolk (Boston) and Norfolk (which became extinct 4 Feb 1680). It is interesting that this action preceded the division of Plymouth Colony into counties by over forty years. A confederation of New England colonies was established 19 May 1643 as "The United Colonies of New England".
- 1644 - Edward Winslow chosen Governor of Plymouth Plantation.
- 1652 - New Amsterdam incorporated as a city.
- 1654 - An English expedition sent by Cromwell captured Nova Scotia which was later (1656) granted to Etienne de la Tour in return for the transfer of his allegiance from France to England. In consequence Nova Scotia was developed by the English. In the interval between this and the Treaty of Breda (July 1667) French colonization was active in Canada. This was resisted by the English when the French settlements came too close and appeared to threaten New England and New York.
- 1663 - ZACHARIAH² SOULE (ca 1624/26-1663) is reputed to have perished in one of these forays into Canada by the New Englanders. We have been unable to find after diligent search any particulars on such an expedition in 1663. This year also saw the grant of Carolina to eight Lord Proprietors.
- 1664 - The English under Colonel Richard Nicols bloodlessly took possession of New Amsterdam on 8 Sep and renamed it New York. The English flag was raised over Fort Amsterdam which became Fort James.
- 1675 - Philip of Pokanoket, son of Massasoit, chief of the Wampanoag tribe headed a league of Indians from Maine to Connecticut apparently banded together for a "last ditch" effort to "drive the New England colonists into the sea". "KING PHILIP'S WAR" began with an attack on Swansea on 24 June. Middleboro settlers occupied their fort for about six weeks. Contemporary eye-witness reports establish that one of the party was George Soule. Weston's "History of Middleboro" (page 35) implies that this was George Soule, Sr., one of the original proprietors of Middleboro. However, we are of the opinion that this occupant of the fort was more likely to have been GEORGE² SOULE (1639-1704) who was then probably a resident of Dartmouth. The Great Swamp fight at Kingston, R.I. on 19 Dec 1675 foretold the outcome of this war. An interesting sidelight indicating the relative population weakness of Plymouth Colony in comparison with her much stronger neighbors is the original (subsequently doubled) allotment of troops to be provided: Massachusetts 527, Connecticut 315, and Plymouth only 158.
- 1676 - On Sunday morning 26 Mar 1676 BENJAMIN² SOULE (ca 1640-1676) of Duxbury was one of the 55 men of Captain Pierce's company of Plymouth Colony troops slain before Pawtucket by Indians of King Philip's forces. In May of the same year, bands of Indians had made repeated attacks in force on Virginia plantations apparently in sympathy with and support of

MILITARY HISTORY OF SOULE FAMILY - Part I - COLONIAL ERA, continued

King Philip's attempt to drive the colonists out of New England. Virginia's Governor Sir William Berkeley (1608-1677) had forbidden retaliation but Nathaniel Bacon (ca1647-1676) raised a force and drove the Indians to the western part of Virginia, then drove Berkeley across the Chesapeake in the first repudiation of English royal authority in America. This action, now known as Bacon's Rebellion was soon terminated by Bacon's death. King Philip was killed on 12 Aug 1676 establishing "practically the close of the war, though hostilities continued for sometime after, and at the eastward for a year or more longer".

- 1685 - The General Court of Plymouth Colony issued an order 2 June 1685 dividing the colony into the separate counties of Barnstable, Bristol and Plymouth. This was 42 years subsequent to similar action by the Massachusetts Bay Colony.
- 1686 - The Dominion of New England was formed by consolidation of colonies by Sir Edmund Andros (1637-1714) with Boston as his capital. Until this was dissolved in 1689, most colonial records were filed only in Boston and must be searched there for genealogical information and background.
- 1689 - William and Mary ascended the throne of England 13 Feb 1689. In April England declared war against France. Known in America as King William's War, it was prosecuted vigorously in Europe and America until the Peace of Ryswick (20 Sep 1697) between France, England, Spain, and Holland, which acknowledged William III as King of England and Anne as his successor. Organized bands of French and Indians effected surprise attacks on and destruction of Schenectady (8 Feb 1690), Salmon Falls (18 Mar 1690) and Casco (17 May 1690). An unsuccessful and costly sea expedition against Quebec left Boston 9 Aug 1690 with a force of some 2,200 men in 32 vessels of various sorts and sizes. This expedition resulted in great troop suffering and losses from disease and exposure and almost bankrupted the Colony of Massachusetts Bay financially. The one significant colonial success was the capture of Port Royal by a force under Sir William Phipps (1651-1695) of Woolwich, Maine on 11 May 1690.
- 1691 - King William III (1650-1702) signed a new Massachusetts charter on 7 Oct 1691 abrogating the old charter of King Charles I (1600-1649) which had created a corporation of Englishmen under the name of the "Governor and Company of Massachusetts Bay". The province as thus constituted included the colonies of Massachusetts and Plymouth, the coastal islands (part of New York until that time) plus the territories of Maine and Nova Scotia (including that now New Brunswick). The actual consolidation of the two colonies took place in May of 1692.
- 1702 - Colonial America again had repercussions from a general European War (Queen Anne's War or War of the Spanish Succession) which was declared by England against France on 4 May 1702 and ended with the Treaties of Utrecht and Rastatt in 1713-14. The same year St. Augustine was captured from the Spanish and burned by the English following repeated conflicts between colonists of the two nations beginning about 1681.
- 1704 - The Deerfield Massacre occurred 29 Feb 1704 when a force of French and Indians surprised the village in the early morning, killed 49 and captured 111 (including the Rev. John Williams who lived to publish an account of his experiences), burned the town and on the way back to Canada killed twenty more of their captives.

MILITARY HISTORY OF SOULE FAMILY - Part I - COLONIAL ERA, continued

- 1710 - Acadia (Nova Scotia) attacked and Port Royal captured by four regiments of New England colonists under Sir Francis Nicholson (1660-1728) sailing from Boston in September in six English and thirty New England vessels. Port Royal was renamed Annapolis after Queen Anne.
- 1711 - Tuscarora War in North Carolina began with the massacre on 22 Sep 1711 by Indians of Carolina settlers at New Bern.
- 1715 - The Yamassee, Creek, Catawba and Cherokee Indian tribes in North Carolina, who had undertaken hostilities against the colonists on the instigation of the Spanish, were decisively defeated during 1715 and 1716.
- 1724 - Names in muster roll of Colonel Westbrook's company from 22 Nov 1724 to 22 May 1725 (NEH&GR 44:25) include Jacob Hedge, servant to BENJAMIN⁴ SOULE (ca1700- ?). This company was engaged in ranging through the country from Kennebec to Penobscot, possibly in connection with Lovewell's war (1722-1725), another Indian outbreak inspired by the Jesuit Rale, which checked the advance of settlement north and east.
- 1732 - Georgia founded by James Oglethorpe (1696-1785), a British general and philanthropist.
- 1735 - Several land transactions by members of the family found of record in North Carolina, led there perhaps by the great Quaker migrations of that era; probably in the Carolinas for three or four years previously:
 JOSEPH⁴ SOULE (1701- ?) (also given as Joseph Sowl and Joseph Sowl, Sr.) petitioned for and was granted 10 Sep 1735 a patent on 640 acres in Bladen County "East side of the White Marsh".
 BENJAMIN⁴ SOULE (1698- ?) (also Sowl and Sowle) petitioned for 320 acres in Bladen County on Northwest River above Swann's Creek. This was opposed by Roger Moore who alleged ownership of this particular tract. Soule was subsequently (20/21 Feb 1735/36) granted a 50 acre and a 100 acre tract in Bladen County.
 EDWARD² SOULE (also Edward or Edmund Sowle) (ca 1700 - ?) petitioned for and was granted patent for 517 acres in Onslow County on 15 Sep 1735.
- 1738 - Migration of Soule family to Dutchess County, N. Y., possibly Quaker inspired, began with GEORGE⁴ SOULE (1695-1784) in the van.
- 1740 - Frederick II of Prussia (1712-1786) invaded Silesia on 16 Dec 1740 to begin the European War of the Austrian Succession, known in America as King George's War. Earlier hostility between Great Britain and Spain had led to colonial expeditions from Georgia, Virginia and the Carolinas against the Spanish in Florida; subsequent major operations against Carthage with colonial participation later in 1740 followed by a relatively insignificant colonial part against Cuba in 1741 and retaliatory attacks by the Spanish against Georgia in 1742.
- 1744 - CORNELIUS⁴ SOULE (1712-1782) was commissioned captain 6th Company, 6th Massachusetts Regiment on 8 Feb 1744 (NEH&GR 24:373). France declared war on England on 20 Mar 1744 but before tidings reached New England, the French made a surprise attack on the English garrison at Canso, Nova Scotia, in May. The fishing station, fort and other buildings were destroyed and 80 men were captured and taken prisoners to Louisbourg. The New England colonists were greatly aroused by this action and decided to take their own initiative.

MILITARY HISTORY OF SOULE FAMILY - Part I - COLONIAL ERA, continued

- 1745 - A force of 4,000 colonial troops under Sir William Pepperell (1696-1759), a wealthy and influential merchant of Kittery, Maine, laid siege to Louisbourg beginning on 30 Apr 1745. At least one member of the family participated in this siege, which terminated in the surrender of Louisbourg on 16 Jun 1745 - Captain CORNELIUS⁴ SOULE (1712-1782). The capture of Louisbourg had a profound impact on the spirit and temper of the times. The New England colonists achieved a confidence, spirit and training which they never lost. A new military power had arisen in America!
- 1748 - The Treaty of Aix-la-Chapelle (Aachen) signed 18 Oct 1748 terminated the War of Austrian Succession (King George's War) with general restitution of conquests. The return to status quo was unsatisfactory to the American colonists and set the scene for the French and Indian War (1754-1763) which became part of the Seven Years War (1756-1763).
- 1753 - French from Canada established military posts near the headwaters of the Ohio River beginning in 1753. George Washington was sent in the autumn of that year by Virginia's Governor Robert Dinwiddie (1693-1770), an energetic and aggressive Scottish born career civil servant, to negotiate with the Indian tribes and demand that the French withdraw from English territory. In the spring of 1754, Washington led an armed force "to prevent the intentions of the French in settling those lands." Washington and his two companies were defeated in what is now southwestern Pennsylvania at the Great Meadows skirmish on 3 Jul 1754.
- 1755 - The year 1755 saw widespread military activity in America:
- (1) Major General Edward Braddock (1695-1755), a distinguished Scottish born career officer, arrived at Chesapeake Bay in February with two crack English regiments. He at once assumed command of all regular British and colonial troops in America. After some months of preparation, during which Braddock was hampered by administrative confusion and want of resources, he took the field with a picked column intending to attack the French at Fort Duquesne (Pittsburgh, Pa.). Colonel George Washington of the Virginia Militia served as aid to General Braddock. Crossing the Monongahela River, Braddock's force was ambushed (9 Jul 1755) by the French and their Indian allies and disgracefully routed with heavy casualties. Braddock was mortally wounded and died on 13 Jul 1755. The ambush inflicted over 700 casualties on a force of about 1,200. Even more seriously the rout resulted in an irreparable loss of prestige for the British in the eyes of both the colonists and the Indians. The heroic action of the Provincial troops during this engagement helped foster pride and understanding between the New England colonists and the Virginians.
 - (2) While Braddock was mounting his disastrous expedition, Forts Beausjour and Gaspereaux in Nova Scotia or Acadia were being captured (16-17 Jun 1755) by a force of 3,000 Massachusetts troops under Winslow and Monckton. This was followed by the scattering of about 7,000 inhabitants who refused to render allegiance to England, immortalized by Longfellow's poem "Evangeline".
 - (3) This was followed by the Battle of Lake George on 8 Sep 1755 when French and Indians under the Baron de Dieskau, Commander-in-Chief of the French forces in Canada, were decisively defeated by about 3,000 American colonial troops under their own officers and with their own organization augmented only by about 250 Mohawk warriors under Hendrick, their chieftan. The bulk of the victorious troops were from Massachusetts, Connecticut, New Hampshire, and New York.

MILITARY HISTORY OF SOULE FAMILY - Part I - COLONIAL ERA, continued

- 1756 - England made formal declaration of war on France in May, arousing the hostility of the civilized world by its claims and assumption of power. While England thus recognized the importance of defending her valuable colonies, His Majesty's ministers seemingly failed to evaluate adequately the substantial material independence, prosperity and economic, political and increasing military competence of those colonies. This undoubtedly laid the foundation for subsequent events leading to the formation of the new American republic. Militarily, the only significant event of the year occurred on 14 Aug 1756 when French General Marquis de Montcalm (1712-1759) captured Forts Oswego and George, razed the structures and took about 1,600 of the defending colonial regiments of Shirley and Pepperell to Quebec as prisoners of war.
- 1757 - Montcalm, with an army of 5,500 French regulars and Canadian provincials together with 1,600 Indians captured and destroyed Fort William Henry as well as English vessels on Lake George on 9 Aug 1757. The victors captured vast stores of provisions while the Indian allies massacred the defenders. For inexplicable reasons substantial nearby English and American Provincial forces failed to respond to the assistance of their compatriots. Still further Massachusetts and Connecticut militia were dispatched to the area in anticipation of further invasion by the French who had withdrawn to Fort Ticonderoga.
- 1758 - The year 1758 again saw repeated significant events in our history of the Colonial Era:
- (1) An English force comprising 7,000 British troops of the line, about 10,000 Provincials "with attendant hundreds of non-combatants, forming the finest army assembled up to that time on the Western Continent" disasterously attacked the French at Fort Ticonderoga on 8 Jul 1758. After five hours "the troops retreated in the utmost disorder, having lost in killed and wounded nineteen hundred and sixty-seven men".
 - (2) Louisbourg was again captured on 26 Jul 1758 from a French force of about half their size by a combined British and American Provincial army of 9,000 to 11,000 men under Baron Jeffry Amherst (1717-1797), a British career officer and then a major general, augmented by a substantial naval contingent. This was the first of a series of British-American military successes bringing a welcome contrast to the earlier phases of this war.
 - (3) A relatively small force of British and Provincial troops captured Fort Frontenac from the French on 27 Aug 1758 after a brief siege. This fort stood on the northern shore of Lake Ontario where Kingston, Ontario, now stands.
 - (4) An army of about 6,000 men composed of 1,200 Highlanders, 350 British regulars, 2,700 Pennsylvanians, 1,600 Virginians (under Colonel George Washington) together with colonial contingents from Maryland and North Carolina, as well as a body of Cherokee Indians, intent on driving the French from Fort Duquesne, discovered on 25 Nov 1758 ". . . . it desolate, ruined and abandoned - everything burned or blown up; fortifications, ovens, houses, magazines, goods of every sort. The French troops had escaped on rafts and boats down the Ohio River . . ." Thus ended forever the attempt of the French to press downward from Canada into the Mississippi valley and assured the possession of the great West by our forefathers and their new nation. Of more than passing interest to the SOULE family is the fact the British-American forces encamped the previous night on Turtle Creek near what is now McKeesport, Pennsylvania, and the subsequent seat of a large branch of the family.

MILITARY HISTORY OF SOULE FAMILY - Part I - COLONIAL ERA, continued

1759 - The climax to the American campaigns came in 1759:

- (1) An audacious and long-planned water-borne attack on heavily defended (over 16,000 men) Quebec was launched from Great Britain in February 1759. One squadron sailed via New York where additional troops destined for the campaign were embarked and the combined fleets rendezvoused at Louisbourg. Sailing from there in late May and early June for the St. Lawrence River, troops were landed off the Island of Orleans on 26 Jun 1759. After vicious skirmishing and maneuvering, the climax came 13 Sep 1759 on the Plains of Abraham at Quebec in a bloody battle costing the lives of the two commanders - Montcalm and Wolfe. Quebec itself capitulated 18 Sep 1759. Although most of the English troops used during this campaign were British regulars, colonial rangers and the 3rd Battalion of Royal Americans also participated. The latter suffered extremely heavy losses in a preliminary encounter near the Montmorenci River.
- (2) A force of about 2,200 men composed of the 44th and 46th Royal Infantry, the 4th Battalion of Royal Americans, two battalions of New York militia and a detachment of Royal Artillery laid siege to Fort Niagara in July 1759. The time-honored technique of pushing forward parallels was used. A relieving force of about 600 French and 1,000 Indians attacked the besiegers from the rear on 24 Jul 1759 but were driven off with heavy casualties (150 killed, over 200 wounded and missing and 120 prisoners) following a short but bloody battle. The following day (25 Jul 1759) brought surrender of the fort and the taking of 640 prisoners as well as vast quantities of ordnance and supplies. The victorious forces had relatively light losses - a total of only 60 killed and 185 wounded. The capture of Fort Niagara was an important flanking movement of the English operations of 1759. When the French flag came down, French domination of the western part of New York was ended.
- (3) Following the capture of Louisbourg (26 Jul 1758) General Amherst ferried his victorious British and American Provincial army to Boston from where they marched across New England to Albany. By June 1759, this army was at Lake George with a strength of about 11,000 and during July it advanced steadily against sporadic skirmishes with the French and their Indian allies. On the night of 25 Jul 1759 the 3,400 man defending French force evacuated and blew up Fort Ticonderoga losing only 16 prisoners and a few boatloads of powder. The French also evacuated the fort at Crown Point and by 16 Aug 1759 had assumed a defensive position commanding the Richelieu River entrance at the northern end of Lake Champlain. Evidently Amherst's mission then dictated a holding posture. Certainly, this stalemate blocked the French from relieving their beleaguered garrison at Quebec and Amherst's army was not needed to insure victory for the English.

1761 - HENRY⁴ SOWLE (1721-1804) "gentleman" of Newport served as a member of the Rhode Island Council of War for the year 1761. An expedition, including British regulars, a Connecticut brigade of 2,300 men commanded by General Phineas Lyman, plus other Provincial troops, sailed from Staten Island, New York on 18 Nov 1761 for the West Indies. This task force captured (14 Feb 1762) the Island of Martinique and other French Islands in the Caribbean area. Havana was attacked in July and surrendered 13 Aug 1762. Provincial losses by disease far exceeded battle casualties in this campaign.

1763 - The French and Indian and Seven Years Wars came to an end with the Treaty of Paris on 10 Feb 1763. Not only did this treaty end a virtual world war but France ceded Canada and all territory she claimed east of the Mississippi River (except New Orleans) to England and Louisiana to Spain while Spain ceded Florida to England.

MILITARY HISTORY OF SOULE FAMILY - Part I - COLONIAL ERA, continued

§ We have tried to outline the Colonial Wars of America and have indicated contemporary participation of members of our family. However, the identity and contribution of these individuals has come to light almost solely as an incident to genealogical research. Considering the large percentage of American colonists who participated in these campaigns, and especially those from Massachusetts, as well as the substantial SOULE contribution to the shortly following American Revolution, we are convinced that there is a real volume of fascinating family lore awaiting to be dug out of troop rosters and other historical documents of the period. We hope that this highly desirable research will eventually be undertaken. The background for this search is now available.

§ All of us can and should appreciate and honor the impact of this critical period of our national heritage. The American colonist built a civilization founded on the family and the rights of the individual. To defend his ideals he performed military service with bravery and intelligence either as a volunteer or under a form of selective service demanded by his duly elected representatives. Colonial officers were leading citizens who acquired a strength of authority and resourcefulness during these campaigns which not only served them in good stead in their civil relations but made them seasoned and effective commanders in the Revolution.

§ Civil and Military service during the periods covered by this article is commemorated by the Society of Colonial Wars (for men) and the Colonial Dames of America (for the distaff side). Proven descent from GEORGE SOULE of the Mayflower is sufficient to establish eligibility for membership in either organization.

- END - Part I -

QUESTIONS & ANSWERS

by Col. John Soule

- Q. Can you explain the "Soule Kindred" form which accompanied the first issue of the SOULE NEWSLETTER?
- A. So many people have asked this question or a variant that we have included in this issue a detailed explanation with examples in an article entitled "Collection and Recording of Family Data"
- Q. What was the faith of the original SOULE's and when did the Jewish strain enter?
- A. The best information we have is contained on the top of the third page of the new SOULE GENEALOGY entitled "George Soule of the Mayflower and His Descendants". We have requested the proponents of the Huguenot theory to prepare an article for an early issue of the SOULE NEWSLETTER so that you can have their side of the story. Frankly, we have never found the slightest clue that any of our ancestors have been Jewish. We would certainly be interested in hearing the source and details of your information on this. By and large, the vast majority of the family have been Protestant with no indication that any one sect has predominated. The Society of Friends (Quakers) and the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints (Mormons) as well as the Roman Catholics each can claim a substantial share. In fact, the meticulous records kept by each of these three groups has frequently given us invaluable clues in compiling our ancestral records. Personally, your Historian is a Catholic - fortunately perhaps of the strong ecumenical viewpoint. We would hope that the near future will bring an increased emphasis on the features that different religions have in common rather than the unfortunately divisive pride in differences and distinctions.

QUESTIONS & ANSWERS - continued

Q. What has happened to the family records loaned to Ridlon?

A. We wish we knew. We have had many clues but most seem to lead into blind alleys. Someday, we'll either know the answer or admit defeat. When that day comes, we think there'll be enough interest in the story to warrant an article on the subject in the SOULE NEWSLETTER.

Q. Because we have been unable to find details concerning JOHN ALDEN SOULE, the husband of Mary (Chanter) Soule, we wonder if he possibly was a Revolutionary War casualty?

A. We are inclined to discount this possibility because of our extensive research into the family contribution to the Revolution. One of your many cousins interested in this subject reports reliable information that his gravestone has been seen in West Becket, Berkshire County, Mass. If this actually has been found and does contain an inscription useful as to dates and/or places, we might find a major break-through connecting this vast family with George Soule. For the present, we have exhausted all clues heretofore presented. This is only one of several large families which has us completely baffled. If and when the opportunity presents, we plan on writing the story of each of these families awaiting perhaps just a shred of information to open the gates.

Q. We have photocopied the pertinent parts of Ridlon's books and wonder if you have other sources of references?

A. We certainly do. We have given considerable weight to other more recent published material compiled by respected researchers - notably "The Dartmouth, Mass., Branch of the Soule Family" by the late Waldo Chamberlain Sprague, which appeared serially in The American Genealogist between July 1962 and October 1964; the frequent references to SOULE data in the "Mayflower Descendant" by editor George Ernest Bowman which continued until 1937 and which Ridlon seems to have ignored in earlier issues; all indexed family genealogies in the Library of Congress which have tidbits of Soule data; and last but not least "Little Compton Families" by the late Benjamin Franklin Wilbour (1887-1964) published in 1967 by the Little Compton Historical Society. Even more weight has been given to original town, city, county and state records which include real estate transactions, wills and administrations. Of almost equal importance in our opinion are the vast resources of the National Archives containing military service records, pension files and census returns. The former are not available until five years after the death of the last member of the immediate family. Since more than 170 Civil War widows are still living this gives you some idea of the information which has become available since Ridlon's day and is still in prospect. On census returns, Ridlon had access to only 1790 to 1850 inclusive. The 1900 returns will be open to the general public in 1975; the 1890 Census returns were all destroyed by an accidental fire; the 1880 Census returns (which gives the states of birth of each individual as well as each parent) were released in 1955, 1870 returns became available in 1945 and 1860 about 1935. A number of states have since had their earlier census returns indexed so we have in census returns a vast new reservoir of genealogical data. Finally, DAR has been assiduously collecting and recording family bibles, gravestone inscriptions and other primary sources. We are frequently amazed at Ridlon's success with such relatively meager resources. He had the advantage of being able to correspond with knowledgeable older people, now long gone to their reward, and could tap their memories and records. We suspect that many of his errors stemmed from carelessness and haste in closing the book before his death at the advanced age of eighty-six.

SOULES IN THE NEWS

VITAL STATISTICS

The following Vital Records have been received recently. We URGE that everyone with knowledge of the family "hatch, match, and dispatch" pass the information on to SOULE KINDRED for recording.

- Married at Augusta, Maine on 11 Feb 1967 ROGER ALLEN SOULE, son of Omar Frank SOULE, to Bonnie Jo White, dau of Allen James & Bernice (King) White.
- Married at Washington, Maine on 11 Feb 1967 BARRY LEIGH SOULE, son of Eldred Leroy & Miream (Reed) Soule, to Cheryl Candace (Soule) Rowley, dau of Nelson & Allison (Colwell) Soule.
- Died at Portland, Maine on 15 Apr 1967 MILDRED DENNISON (Loring) SOULE, wife of GEORGE CARROLL⁹ SOULE.
- Born at Tomah, Wisconsin on 13 Feb 1967 KURT CAMERON¹¹ SOWLE, son of Ronald Eugene¹⁰ & Janice (Hunt) SOWLE.
- Born at Tomah, Wisconsin on 26 Mar 1967 JASON MAXMILLAN¹¹ SOWLE, son of Donald James¹⁰ & Jacqueline Bonnie (Snippen) SOWLE.
- Born at Aspen, Colorado on 12 Apr 1967 JOHN SOULE¹² PRESTON, son of Samuel Henry & Julia Ermelinda "Linda"¹¹ (SOULE) PRESTON III.
- Born at Pensacola, Florida on 6 May 1967 MARY MARGUERITE¹² SOULE, dau of Charles Moseley Oliver¹¹ & Susan (Uebelacker) SOULE.
- Born at U. S. Naval Hospital, Portsmouth, Virginia on 22 Jun 1967 MARGHERITA CRANE¹² SOULE, dau of Lieutenant Charles Arthur¹¹ & Margherita Ligon (Jones) SOULE, Jr., USN.
- Married at North Hollywood, California on 22 Jul 1967 THOMAS EDWARD¹¹ WALLEY, son of the late Clifford Jay & Ruth Webb¹⁰ (SOULE) WALLEY; to Marilyn Colleen Arnold, dau of Mr. & Mrs. William Duncan Arnold.

COLLECTION AND RECORDING OF FAMILY DATA

By Colonel John Soule, Family Historian

§ One of the primary objectives of the SOULE KINDRED is to collect, verify record and disseminate historical, biographical and genealogical data concerning members of the family. We have already accomplished historical research tending to identify the vast majority of family members who were born in 1850 or earlier. However, there is really much to be done to extend this research, especially for the FIVE GENERATION PROJECT of the General Society of Mayflower Descendants, and for the new genealogy to supplement, correct and expand the work of the Reverend Gideon T. Ridlon.

§ Because of the lack of family knowledge, specific sources of information, sufficient time and enough funds to compile a comprehensive record on each current family group, we are constrained to depend upon members of SOULE KINDRED and other members of the family to provide us with current records plus sufficient clues to assure a tie in and integration with the entire family. The form which you have received, and many have completed, is known as the "Ashburton Form". It is intended to record the complete family history of one man and his wife together with identification of their respective parentage and their children. Consequently, several such forms are usually required to establish the relationship to the rest of the family. You may have as many forms as you need without charge by applying to SOULE KINDRED at Post Office Box 259, South Duxbury, Massachusetts 02374.

§ Enclosed are copies of completed forms marked Form A-1 covering the author's grandfather, Form A-2 covering the author's father, and Form B showing descent of the author's grandson from George Soule of The Mayflower. Normally, we will prepare Form B for you as soon as your family connection is established and available time permits. We hope that each of you who have not already done so will complete Forms A to the extent of your available knowledge. We know that some effort and possibly even some expense is required. We'll be glad to help and advise concerning possible sources on any specific problem. In general, **personal recollections, old letters, tombstones in family**

burial lists and even Vital Records from towns or states in which the event took place offer valuable sources. The memory of older members of the family is especially valuable.

§ Let's take a look at the completed Forms A-1 and A-2 concerning which we have a few suggestions:

- (1) The "Generation" in upper left corner is intended to reflect the generation from your immigrant ancestor. For the majority, but by no means all, of the SOULE KINDRED members this means in line of descent from George Soule of The Mayflower. By all means, please leave it blank unless you are certain. It can readily be added later when Form B is completed. When the Form B is completed we either have Forms A for all intermediate generations or information upon which to prepare one.
- (2) If the surname of the "Head of the Family" is SOULE, SOWLE or variants, please leave the space in the upper right corner blank. As soon as the line is established, we'll assign a code number to facilitate filing and comparison with other closely related family groups. The code for the enclosed forms is 533411. If the "Head of the Family" has another surname like SMITH or JONES, you may insert that surname.
- (3) The two lines immediately beneath that of the "Head of the Family" show successively the father, grandfather, greatgrandfather and so on of the "Head of the Family". Unless you have an approved Mayflower Lineage or other positive proof, we would suggest that this be left blank until the Form B is completed. This will take time as we have a backlog of several hundred and priority must be given to copy for the SOULE NEWSLETTER, then the FIVE GENERATION PROJECT, then families named SOULE or variants, and finally other families.
- (4) Please be careful about showing dates. If you show something like 7-3-27 your Historian may have to gaze deeply into his crystal ball to determine whether you intend 7 Mar 1827, 3 Jul 1927 or what have you. To unify and simplify we suggest following the European style of giving the day first in numbers, then the month in letters (using only the first three letters regardless of the month - Jan, May or Dec) and the full year.
- (5) Do remember too that we are striving for historical accuracy so let's not "play games" by covering up old family skeletons. Collaborating official records usually disclose discrepancies of this nature so let's give the facts even though there may be unsavory divorce actions, murders, first babies appearing far short of the normal nine months and so on. As long as a natural child is proven and/or acknowledged, an acceptable lineage is established.
- (6) List your own name and address as compiler unless another member of the family gathers and reports the information. We would like to know to whom questions should be addressed when we find incongruities in the available data.
- (7) If you know or knew personally the "Head of the Family", you may state "personal knowledge" under the heading "Sources of Data" near the bottom of back of the form. Any other source of information should be indicated.
- (8) Leave the "Verification" blank. We will normally complete this item when we are satisfied that the record is complete and realistic and not in conflict with other information of equal or higher degree of validity.
- (9) Please do give us as many clues as practicable. For example, if exact dates and places are unknown or not ascertainable, you may know enough to hazard an intelligent guess. Dates thus indicated should always be marked "circa" or "ca" (for about) and place names as probably or possibly as the strength of your hunch may suggest. This greatly facilitates further research.

§ In closing, we would like to assure you that other forms containing the desired information will be acceptable. Acceptable alternates include the REED Form, the EVERTON Form and the Standard Archive Record Form used by the Genealogical Society of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints for Mormon Temple Ordinance work. Whatever you do or use, we urge that you AVOID professional help or extensive library research until we have an opportunity to review what you send in and give you our recommendations. We may have all or most of the information needed to complete your family records or may be able to suggest the best way to obtain missing information.

FORM A-1 Soule Kindred

8th Generation

533411

Front Family

Name of family

CHARLES EDWARD SOULE

Paternal line of ancestors

(Ambrose Latten⁷, Latten⁶, Nathan⁵, George⁴, Nathan³, George², George¹)

Parentage

son of Ambrose Latten and Ruth (Paddock) (widow BROWN) SOULE

Birth or baptism

was b. 20 Sep 1841 at Soule Corners, Russell Twp, GEAUGA County, Ohio

Death

died 3 Jan 1925 at Grand Haven, OTTAWA County, Michigan

Burial

buried at Grand Haven, Michigan Cemetery

Residences and removals

Resided Russell Twp, Ohio; Muir, Spring Lake and Grand Haven, Michigan.
to 1865 to 1868 to 1873 to death

Occupation

Originally fruit grower, then lawyer, bank official (director) and Ottawa County Judge of Probate for many years.

Military service

Union Army: Aptd 1st Lt. & Adjutant of 10th Michigan Cavalry, joined 6 Jul 1863 at Detroit, Mich.; retd as Adjt and asgd Co "K" 23 Jan 1864, det on Military Commission at Knoxville, Tenn. as Judge Advocate of Military Courts Martial on 12 May 1864; Honorable service terminated 12 Oct 1864, AWOL 13 Oct - 23 Oct 1864 when placed in arrest in qtrs and charges preferred, arrest to duty 2 Dec 1864, resigned and separated 1 Feb 1865 at Knoxville, Tenn.

Other biographical data

Oldest living graduate Hillsdale College, For many years active in Grand Haven Post of Grand Army of Republic reading Lincoln's Gettysburg Address at Cemetery each year on Memorial Day.

He married

LUCINDA SAXTON HALL

on 16 Sep 1867 at Milwaukee, MILWAUKEE County, Wisconsin

Parentage

dau. of Lyman and Lucina (SAXTON) HALL

Birth or Baptism

She was b. 12 Jul 1843 at Shelburne, CHITTENDEN County, Vermont

Death

and died 31 May 1926 at Grand Haven, OTTAWA County, Michigan

Burial

buried at Grand Haven, Michigan Cemetery

Biographical

Other marriages

No other marriages for either of above.

FORM A-1

Back

Children of Charles Edward and Lucinda Saxton (Hall) SOULE

Names in full, date and place of birth, marriage, death, and to whom married

(1) Mary Laura Soule, b. 7 May 1869 at Spring Lake, Mich., d. 6 Oct 1948 at Grand Haven, Mich., unmarried.

(2) Charles Edward Soule, Jr., b. 27 Jan 1871 at Spring Lake, Mich., d. 23 Aug 1951 at Costa Mesa, Calif., bur. Grand Haven, Mich.; m(1) 1910 at Chicago, Ill. to Celeste Webb, dau of Thomas Eldon & Laura (Stockton) Webb, m(2) 16 Aug 1948 at Los Angeles, Calif. to Mrs. Maud (Nichols) Chambers. Celeste (Webb) Soule d. 17 Jun 1945 at Van Nuys, Calif., and was buried at Grand Haven, Mich.

(3) Julia Annette Soule, b. 4 Mar 1873 at Spring Lake, Mich., d. 31 May 1945 at Grand Haven, Mich., unmarried.

(4) Julius Myron Soule, b. 15 Jan 1875 at Grand Haven, Mich., d. at Grand Haven, Mich.

(5) Fayette Fletcher Soule, b. 25 Jan 1877 at Grand Haven, Mich., d. 28 Mar 1946 at Pensacola, Fla.; m. 9 Oct 1901 at Chicago, Ill. to Mary Isabel Atkinson (b. 16 Jul 1880 Chicago, Ill. - d. 9 Mar 1964 Pensacola, Fla.) dau of John Arthur & Sarah Elizabeth (Masson) Atkinson.

(6) Leila Ruth Soule, b. 18 Sep 1881 at Grand Haven, Mich., d. at Cleveland, Ohio; 19 at Grand Haven, Mich. to George Louis Bitting (b. - d. 2 Oct 1949 Chicago, Ill.) son of

This record was compiled by Col. John Soule - 1709-34th Street, NW, Washington, D.C.

of Date Rev. 21 Jun 1967

Sources of data Ridlon pp797/798; Family Bible; Manuscript Autobiography; Military Service Record & Pension Bureau Files in National Archives; original death and marriage certificates; personal knowledge of Col. Soule and cousins.

Verified by Mayflower Index #70,935

FORM A-2 Soule Kindred

Font

9th Generation

533411

Family

Head of family

FAYETTE FLETCHER SOULE

Paternal line of ancestors

(Charles Edward⁸, Ambrose Latten⁷, Latten⁶, Nathan⁵, George⁴, Nathan³, George², George¹)

Parentage

son of Charles Edward and Lucinda Saxton (HALL) SOULE

Birth or baptism

was b. 25 Jan 1877 at Grand Haven, OTTAWA County, Michigan

Death

died 28 Mar 1946 at Pensacola, ESCAMBIA County, Florida

Burial

buried at Pensacola, Florida Holy Cross Cemetery

Residences and removals

Resided Grand Haven to 1900; Chicago, Ill., to 1918; Washington, D.C. to 1920; Pensacola, Florida to 1932; Lillian, Ala. to 1944; then Pensacola.

Occupation

Vice Pres. Scherzer Rolling Lift Bridge Co.; Pres. Sterling Engineering Co.; Vice Pres (and third owner) Pensacola Shipbuilding Co.; Pres. American Bascule Bridge Corp.

Military service

No military service

Other biographical data

Attended Hillsdale College, Michigan (Phi Delta Theta); and Chicago-Kent College of Law. Avid yachtsman, marine architect by avocation, creditable golfer

He married MARY ISABEL ATKINSON

on 9 Oct 1901 at Chicago, COOK Co., Illinois

Parentage

dau. of John Arthur and Sarah Elizabeth (MASSON) ATKINSON

Birth or baptism

She was b. 16 Jul 1880 at Chicago, COOK Co., Illinois

Death

and died 9 Mar 1964 at Pensacola, ESCAMBIA County, Florida

Burial

buried at Pensacola, Florida. Holy Cross Cemetery

Biographical

First President of the League of Women Voters in Pensacola, founder and past president of the Mother Seton Guild at Sacred Heart Hospital, named in 1950 as Pensacola's Woman of the Year by the Optimist Club, active in the American Red Cross for over 50-years and at the time of her death a member of St. Thomas More Catholic Church and a member of the Altar Society of that church.

Other marriages

No other marriages for either of above.

FORM A-2

Back

Children of Fayette Fletcher and Mary Isabel (Atkinson) SOULE
 all born at Chicago, Illinois.

Names in full, date and place of birth, marriage, death, and to whom married

- (1) John Edward Soule b. 11 Jul 1902; now residing at 1709-34th St., NW Washington, D.C.; m. 13 Nov 1934 at Walter Reed Memorial Chapel, Washington, D. C. to Adelia Elsa Maria Ermelinda Rosasco (b. 31 Jan 1901 at Genova, Italy), dau of Peter Louis & Ermelina (Schiaffino) Rosasco.
- (2) Sarah Elizabeth Soule, b. 29 Feb 1904; now residing in Pensacola, Fla.; m. 4 Sep 1923 at Pensacola, Fla., to John Abercrombie Merritt, Jr., (b. 18 Dec 1898 Pensacola, Fla. - d. 29 May 1959 Pensacola, Fla.) son of John Abercrombie & Mary (Turner) Merritt.
- (3) Charles Arthur Soule, b. 14 Aug 1905; now residing at 1675 North Reus St., Pensacola, Fla.; m. 30 Mar 1940 at Pensacola, Fla., to Margaret Pomeroy Washburn (b. 22 Apr 1916 Augusta, Ga.) dau of Theodore & Nellie (Crane) Washburn.
- (4) Joseph Soule, b. 23 Apr 1907; d. 24 Apr 1907 Chicago, Ill. (buried in Oakwoods Cemetery, Chicago, Ill.)
- (5) William Latten Soule, b. 8 Sep 1909; Now residing on Bayshore, Pensacola, Fla.; m. 18 Jul 1936 at San Juan, Puerto Rico, to Mary Moseley Oliver of Laurel, Miss. (b. 13 Oct 1916 Florence, S.C.) dau of Charles Moseley & Gabrielle (Perry) Oliver.
- (6) Mary Isabel Soule, b. 15 Jan 1911; d. 11 May 1922 Pensacola, Fla. (buried at Pensacola in Holy Cross Cemetery)

This record was compiled by Colonel John Soule - 1709-34th Street, N.W., Washington, D.C.

of _____ Date Rev. 20 Jun 1967

Sources of data Personal knowledge; Mayflower Index #70,959

Verified by _____

FORM B

A SOULE (SOWLE) LINEAGE

533411

1. GEORGE SOULE of the Mayflower married Mary Becket. Their son was
2. GEORGE SOULE who married Deborah - - ? - - and had
3. NATHAN SOULE born at Duxbury or Dartmouth on unknown died at Dartmouth, Mass. on 10 Sep 1736 married at unknown on 12 Jun 1704 to Mary or Mercy Gifford born at unknown on unknown died at Dartmouth, Mass. on 1 Jun 1772. Their son was
4. GEORGE SOULE born at Dartmouth, Mass. on 15 Aug 1709 died at Pawling, N. Y. on circa 1793 married at Providence, R. I. on 3 Dec 1730 to Avis Tibbetts born at unknown on unknown died at (prob) Pawling, N.Y. on 12 Jan 1756. Their son was
5. NATHAN SOULE born at Dartmouth, Mass. on 9 Aug 1738 died at Pawling, N. Y. on circa 1806 married at Oblong, N. Y. on 31 Oct 1762 to Sarah Birdsall born at Pawling, N. Y. on circa 1735 died at unknown on after 1806. Their son was
6. LATTEN SOULE born at Dutchess County, N.Y. on circa 1763 died at Clay Corners, N. Y. on in 1828 married at Dutchess County, N.Y. on circa 1785 to Lydia Leech born at Dover, N. Y. on circa 1763/64 died at unknown on unknown. Their son was
7. AMBROSE LATTEN SOULE born at Dover, N. Y. on 26 Jun 1801 died at Muir, Mich. on 24 Jun 1857 married at (prob) DeRuyter, N. Y. on 10 Mar 1824 to Ruth (Paddock) Brown born at Onondaga County, N.Y. on 24 Dec 1804 died at Russell, Ohio on 14 May 1851. Their son was
8. CHARLES EDWARD SOULE born at Russell, Ohio on 20 Sep 1841 died at Grand Haven, Mich. on 3 Jan 1925 married at Milwaukee, Wis. on 16 Sep 1867 to Lucinda Saxton Hall born at Shelburne, Vt. on 12 Jul 1843 died at Grand Haven, Mich. on 31 May 1926. Their son was
9. FAYETTE FLETCHER SOULE born at Grand Haven, Mich. on 27 Jan 1877 died at Pensacola, Fla. on 28 Mar 1946 married at Chicago, Ill. on 9 Oct 1901 to Isabel Atkinson born at Chicago, Ill. on 16 Jul 1880 died at Pensacola, Fla. on 9 Mar 1964. Their son was
10. Colonel JOHN EDWARD SOULE born at Chicago, Ill. on 11 Jul 1902 died at on married at Washington, D. C. on 13 Nov 1934 to Adelia Elsa Maria Emelinda Rosasco born at Genoa, Italy on 31 Jan 1901 died at on Their dau was
11. JULIA ERNELINDA "Linda" SOULE born at Ft. McPherson, Ga. on 4 Apr 1938 died at on married at Washington, D. C. on 16 Jun 1962 to Samuel Henry Preston III born at Bluefield, W. Va. on 2 Mar 1935 died at on Their son was
12. JOHN SOULE PRESTON born at Aspen, Colorado on 12 Apr 1967

