

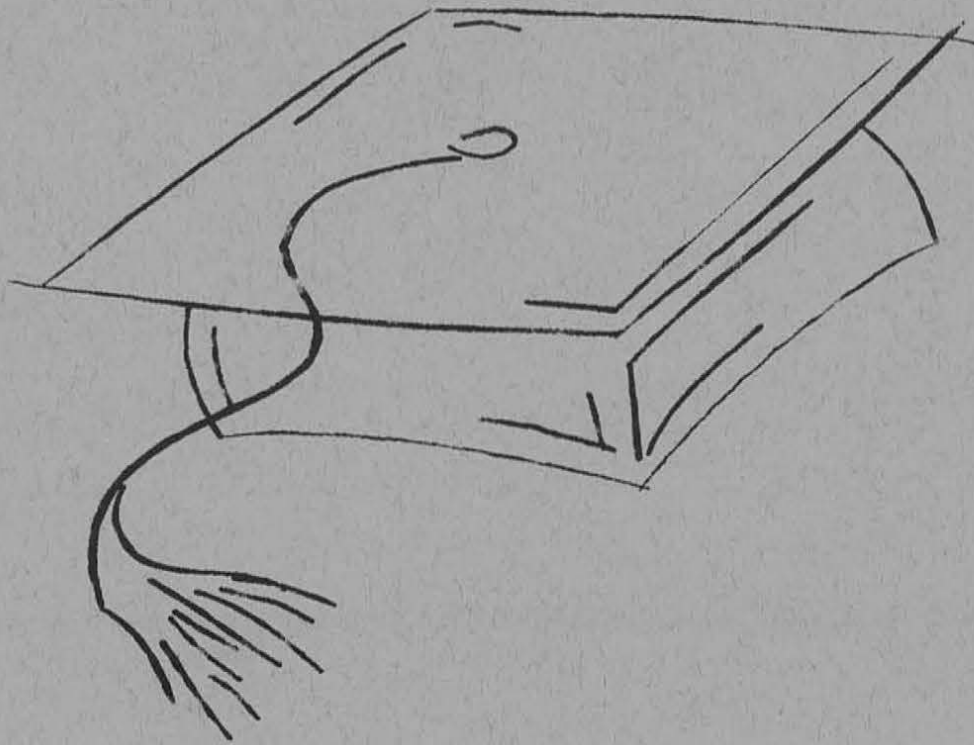


SOULE NEWSLETTER

XXIX

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SOULE FAMILY REUNION SEPTEMBER 27 TO OCTOBER 1, 1995

BURLINGTON, VERMONT

SOULE KINDRED OFFICERS 1995

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Please make extra copies of this introduction and pass out as many as possible to interested people. Be sure to include your name at the bottom.

INTRODUCTION TO SOULE KINDRED

Soule Kindred was formed in 1967 by a group of dedicated people who were interested in preserving and passing information on to future generations. Through the diligence of the first President George Soule and Colonel John Soule, direct descendants of the Mayflower George Soule, a great heritage was found to have been left by our founding fathers. The Kindred is a nonprofit organization incorporated in Massachusetts in 1972.

Through the Soule quarterly publication, Soule Newsletter, information of genealogical value is disseminated to its members. Reading back copies of the Newsletter is like walking through American and European History, after all, Europe is where most of our ancestors lived. Current news items about Kindred members' activities bring "cousin to cousin" closer.

Genealogy records are available through the Kindred historian to assist those interested in tracing their family roots. The Kindred has microfilm records, going back to the Mayflower passenger George Soule, contains hundreds of names.....

Kindred membership lists are published annually, leading you to a whole new world of "cousins."

The annual Soule Family Reunion, held in a different city each year, offers an opportunity to meet your new "cousins" and make long lasting friendships.

There are no restrictive requirements to joining the Kindred. Your name does not have to be Sole, Soule, Sowle, Soules, or even begin with an "S". We have Jones, Abraham, Boyd, Edward;s, Myers, Turner, and many other names in our membership.

If the idea of finding your roots, and meeting new "cousins" appeals to you, we invite you to send in your application and join with us in celebrating our fascinating heritage.

Membership application with check made payable to Soule Kindred should be sent to the Treasurer, Betty-Jean Haner, 53 New ZShaker Rd., Albany, Ny., 12205-3615.

Life Membership.....	\$200.00
Patron Membership.....	\$ 50.00
Sustaining Membership.....	\$ 25.00
Regular Membership.....	\$ 15.00
Student(to age 22).....	\$ 7.00

Please enter my membership to the SOULE KINDRED IN AMERICA, INC.,* as you wish it to appear on your mailing label

Name-----
Address-----
City, State, Zip-----

Introduced by-----

Soule Kindred In America

Stanley E. Soule, President

P.O. Box 48, Highgate Springs, Vermont 05460
Telephone (514) 248-2309 * Fax (514) 248-0178

April 10, 1995

Dear Cousins

Plans are well underway for the 1995 Soule Kindred Reunion to be held in Burlington, Vermont on September 27th through October 1st and we hope that you will take this opportunity to discover the brilliance of the fall foliage and to greet old and new "Soules".

Burlington, The Queen City, is located on beautiful Lake Champlain, less than an hours drive from the Adirondacks of New York and the Green Mountains of Vermont. A truly cosmopolitan city, with a population of over 52,000, Burlington offers a wide variety of fine restaurants, retail shopping malls and speciality shops, which feature many of the area's fine crafts, local produce and unique antiques.

Vermont's many historical sites, museums and attractions are open throughout the summer and fall and provide a valuable insight on early life in the Green Mountains, which played such an important role in the culture and politics of our nation.

The fall foliage season is truly a spectacular event which attracts thousands of visitors to Vermont. For many of you who have never experienced the fall foliage colors, this is one added reason to attend this year's Soule Family Reunion.

So to avoid disappointment, you must make your hotel reservations before August 13th.

I look forward to seeing you in Burlington.

Best Regards



Stanley Soule, President
Soule Kindred In America

1995 SOULE KINDRED REUNION
Holiday Inn, Burlington, Vermont
September 27th - October 1st

REUNION INFO

Burlington International Airport
Served by United, U.S. Air and Continental
Free shuttle service to and from Holiday Inn

Camping is available at:
Mallets Bay Campgrounds (802) 863-6980
Shelburne Camping (802) 985-2540

Distance from Burlington, Vermont to :
Montreal, Quebec 100 Miles
Albany, NY 150
Hartford, CT 215
Boston, MA 225
New York, NY 300
Washington, DC 525

Reunion Headquarters
Holiday Inn
1068 Williston Road
Interstate 89, Exit 14E
South Burlington, Vermont 05403
(802) 863-6363

Make reservations directly with hotel
Dial 1-800-799-6363
Press 1 for individual reservations
To get special room rate of \$ 89/night, you must give the code SKR.

Reservation deadline is August 13th 1995.

IF YOU ARE PLANNING TO ATTEND, PLEASE RESERVE EARLY. Rooms are very limited this time of the year due to the fall foliage season. Once the balance of our block of rooms are released on August 13th, it is doubtful that there will be any available rooms, anywhere within the area.

GOODWIFE MARY SOULE TO SPEAK AT THE SEPTEMBER REUNION:

You don't want to miss our reunion Saturday, September 30, 1995, as we will be visited by a very special guest. Goodwife Mary Soule, wife of Mayflower passenger George Soule, will be on hand to speak to us, her descendants, during our gathering at the Holiday Inn in Burlington, Vermont. It is sure to be a memorable occasion and we hope that you can attend.

Mary Soule comes to us care of Plimoth Plantation, the living history museum of the 17th century. Goodwife Soule will be portrayed by Martha Sulya, a long-time role player at the museum. Playing Mary Soule provides a challenge for this veteran historical interpreter because so very little is known about Mary's life. We look forward to this program with great interest.

1995 SOULE KINDRED REUNION
Holiday Inn, Burlington, Vermont
September 27th - October 1st

SCHEDULE OF ACTIVITIES

WEDS, Sept 27th

02:00 PM - 09:00 PM

Arrival and check-in
Meet cousins in Hospitality room

THURS, Sept 28th

10:00 AM - 09:00 PM

Hospitality Room open

Some suggestions for the day :

Shelburne Museum
Shelburne Farms
Lake Champlain Chocolate Co.
Fleming Museum
Vermont Teddy Bear Co.
Winter Links - Indoor Golf

University Mall
Champlain Mill Mall
Downtown Mall
Church Street Marketplace

FRI, Sept 29th

Caravan to Stowe
Lunch at Trapp Family Lodge
Visit Cold Hollow Cider Mill
Visit Ben & Jerry's Ice Cream Plant

SAT, Sept 30th

10:00 AM
02:00 PM
05:30 PM
06:30 PM
08:00 PM

General Meeting
1 1/2 Hour Narrated cruise on Lake Champlain
Cocktails - Cash Bar
Banquet
Guest Speaker

SUN, Oct 1st

09:30 AM
10:00 AM

30 Minute Church Service
Breakfast Buffet

1995 SOULE KINDRED REUNION
 Holiday Inn, Burlington, Vermont
 September 27th - October 1st

REGISTRATION FORM

		Number Attending			
	Registration Fee	___ X	\$ 15	=	_____
Sept 29th	Buffet Lunch	___ X	\$ 17	=	_____
	- Trapp Family Lodge				
Sept 30th	Boat Cruise	___ X	\$ 8	=	_____
Sept 30th	Dinner Banquet				
	- Chicken Cordon Bleu	___ X	\$ 14	=	_____
	- Filet Of Sole With Crab Stuffing	___ X	\$ 17	=	_____
Oct 1st	Breakfast Buffet	___ X	\$ 7	=	_____
TOTAL				=	_____

Please make check payable to :

Carol & Monica Soule
 P.O. Box 48
 Highgate Springs, VT
 05460

(514) 248-2309

SOWLE FAMILIES IN TAX DEED SALES

Many of the families who remained loyal to the crown at the time of the American Revolution left the colonies for refuge in Canada. Some, including William Sowle with his wife and seven sons, settled in what they believed was Canada but now is Alburgh, Vermont. That territory remained in dispute for years -- not only between Canada and the new United States, but also between Vermont and New York.

The confusion resulting from those disputes put a cloud over the legal title to any property in the area. They found an interesting solution; they did not pay the "road tax". By mutual agreement, Elisha Reynolds was named Tax Collector; he put property up for sale for taxes due; and all those involved agreed not to bid on property of anyone else.

The Town Land Records involving Stephen Sowls (Vol 4 p134) is an example --

*Elisha Reynolds Deed
To Stephen Sowls*

Whereas it appears by the records of a Vendue holden at Alburgh on the ninth day of September one thousand Eight hundred and five for the Sale of Lands in Alburgh in the County of Grand Isle and State of Vermont to Satisfy a Tax of four Cents on Each Acre of Land in said Township Assessed by the Legislators at their Session holden at Westminster one thousand Eight hundred and three for the purpose of repairing roads and building Bridges that Stephen Sowls purchased at said Vendue the following Lands Viz. Lot No Two and the third Range of Lands in the Township of Alburgh aforesaid for the sum of four dollars and twenty Cents Tax and Cost of Sale as appears of record no person appearing to pay said Tax and Cost for a less quantity of Land and said Land not being redeemed on or before the ninth day of September

Elisha Reynolds Deed
To Stephen Sowls --

Whereas it appears by the records of a Vendue holden at Alburgh on the ninth day of September one Thousand Eight Hundred and five for the Sale of Lands in Alburgh in the County of Grand Isle and the state of Vermont to satisfy a Tax of four cents on each acre of land in said Township assessed by the Legislators at their session holden at Westminster One Thousand Eight Hundred and Three for the purpose of repairing roads and building bridges that Stephen Sowls purchased at the said vendue the following lands - Viz. Lot No Two in the third range of lands in the Township of Alburgh aforesaid for the sum of Four Dollars and Twenty Cents Tax and cost of sale as appears of record no person appearing to pay said tax and cost for a less quantity of land and said land not being redeemed on or before the ninth day of September

Stephen Sowls now had a clear tax deed title to his property for him "and his heirs and assigns" at a cost of only \$4.20. Simple arithmetic indicates his land probably totaled some 100 acres so he insured his right to the property at a bargain price.

Volume 4 of the town land records from page 57 to 135 is devoted almost exclusively to similar tax deed sales. All were handled by Tax Collector Elisha Reynolds. Most were witnessed by Timothy Soules and several involved other sons of William Sowle (the surname is written variously as Sowle, Sowl, Sowls, Soules etc in the records).

April 8, '95

Ms Jeanette Taylor
RR#1, Box 149
Deer Isle, ME 04627

Dear Jeanette,

Quite some time ago I sent you a piece for the Newsletter concerning the search my wife and I were making for Stephen Davis, Jr. a son of my g-g-g-g-grandmother Reliance (Soule) Davis, who left Sidney, ME, in 1814, when his brother Thomas (from whom I am descended) came from Sidney to Vermont.

While we were in Salt Lake City doing research at the Mormon Family Center, as part of a trip that included time in Iowa looking for members of my family that went there from Vermont in the 1840's, we found that Stephen, Jr., had gone to Marietta, Ohio, with his wife and family.

We changed our travel plan and went to Marietta to do research on Stephen, Jr., and his descendents. At the County Court House in Marietta we met a lovely lady, Mrs. Elizabeth Cottle, who helped us greatly as she had done a lot of genealogical work on the Davis families in Marietta. We pooled our information and she later wrote an excellent article on Stephen Davis, Jr., (He was known as Sr. in Marietta) for the Bulletin of the Washington County Historical Society of Marietta, Ohio - The Tallow Light, Volume 24 No. 4, 1993-1994.

I had decided that there probably wasn't enough interest in Stephen to justify another article for the Newsletter so let it slide.

I recently received a letter from Barbara Keohane of Allendale, NJ, who had run across my article in the Newsletter, quite by chance, while doing research at the NEHGS and was thrilled to find that she is a descendent of Stephen and Reliance through their son, Elijah, who stayed in the Westport, MA, Little Compton, RI, area.

We have been exchanging information, to our mutual benefit, and the incident has made me realize how important every bit of printed information may be to someone searching for their roots even if it only generates one contact.

As was pointed out in the latest Newsletter, there are hundreds of George Soule descendents in the country who are unaware of their connection to this remarkable pilgrim. Each time a "cousin" is found a door is opened to another entire branch of the family.

Therefore, I am enclosing some information on Stephen Davis, Jr., for possible inclusion in the Newsletter because one of his descendents may chance to read it and find that they have a Soule on their family tree.

Sincerely,
Ken Davis

STEPHEN DAVIS, JR., SON OF STEPHEN AND RELIANCE
(SOULE) DAVIS FOUND IN MARIETTA, OHIO

Volume XXVII, No. 1, Winter 1993, Page 13, featured the search for Stephen and Reliance (Soule) Davis who moved from Westport Point, MA, to Sidney, ME, in the late 1790's, and presumably died there though no records have so far been found to prove it. Most likely in June of 1800 when they sold their land in Sidney to their son Stephen, Jr., they resided with him or with their daughter, Meribah, wife of Humphrey Bailey who stayed in Sidney.

My wife and I have traced the move of Stephen, Sr., and Reliance's son Thomas, a mariner, to Wolcott, VT, in 1814 and have been fairly successful in developing a genealogy of his descendents including some now living in Iowa, Kansas, Illinois, and North Carolina along with many in Vermont.

While doing research in the Mormon Family Center in Salt Lake City in the spring of 1994 we were fortunate to find a reference to Stephen, Jr., who also left Sidney in 1814. He and his wife Patience (Springer) and their children had moved to Marietta, Ohio.

Stephen, Jr., (known as Stephen, Sr., in Marietta) appears on a list of town officers in Marietta as a supervisor of the 3rd Road District in 1823 and his first deed for property was dated April, 1825.

Patience (Springer) Davis died in May of 1827 and Stephen, Jr., married an Ellen _____ about which nothing is known. Both he and Ellen must have died by August of 1847 when their son Stephen sold land as one of the heirs of Stephen Davis, Sr., deceased, with no mention of Ellen.

The children of Patience and Stephen are as follows:

* Thomas G. Davis who married Mary _____ in 1826 and had a son George Thomas:

* Edward Springer Davis who married Drusilla Alcock in 1831 and moved to Iowa about 1850:

* Patience S. Davis who it is believed moved to St Louis, MO, in 1846:

* Stephen S. Davis who married Catherine H. Wiser. They had nine children, seven of whom lived: John Thomas, Stephen D., Lewis Putnam, Charles Wiser, Mary Catherine, Allen, and Helen S; and

* William A. Davis who married Sarah Shewe and moved to New Canton, IL. They had six children.

It is interesting to note that many of the male descendents of Stephen, Jr., and Patience had careers that involved working on the Ohio River as captains and pilots of riverboats thus carrying on the family seafaring tradition started in Westport Point, MA, many years before.

SOULE KINDRED IN AMERICA
LOGO & SHIRTS

There seems to be a question about the logo to be used in our organization. Taken from the minutes of the 1992 reunion in Reno under New Business: " There was much discussion about a possible logo. The final outcome was a motion by Jim Soule to adopt the logo which is on our flag to be used as a logo through the organization. Betty Jean Haner seconded and the motion carried unanimously. "

Several years in the past the idea of having shirts made with our logo has been brought up. At our last reunion in St. Augustine Sandy Soule' from Houston Texas agreed to look into having a golf shirt made using a smaller size of this same logo.

Since then with the input both Sandy & Bill have put into this they have made the recommendation of a Golf shirt with an attractive logo embroidered in two colors. With a minimum order of 12 shirts and a considerable one time set up charge for computer program, the cost would vary with the number of shirts ordered. Each shirt with logo should be some where between \$20 & \$25.



In order to follow up with this and get a rough idea of the number we are talking about we are asking that anyone that thinks they would be interested in one of these shirts to drop a card or phone Norman R. Soule' 9011 SE 88th St., Ocala, Fl., 34472, (904) 687-3847, stating the number and size S-XL. Hopefully we could have some of these shirts at the reunion in Burlington Vt. this year.

NEWS FROM YOUR EDITOR:

Well Summer is almost here and so is our Soule Kindred Reunion. It really looks like an interesting time to be had in Burlington, Vermont.

I have been very busy filling in my family tree. In May, I went to Port Jefferson, NY and found my grandmother's marriage license and my great grandfather's death certificate. The Sturtevant Line (descended from George Soule) moved to New York sometime in the 1830's from Duxbury, MA. They were also ship builders. (Wasn't everyone?)

I regretfully must resign from my post as editor of the Soule Kindred Newsletter. Due to my other duties as editor of a 48 page magazine, I feel that I am not giving all that I should to our Newsletter. Please feel free to appoint another editor at the Soule Kindred Reunion in Burlington.

As you can see by this issue, very little is being submitted to your editor. I find that very disturbing.

As I said in the last Newsletter, Fred and I will not be able to make the Soule Family Reunion in Burlington, but our thoughts are with you.

Jeanette

QUERIES

QUERIES

QUERIES

QUERIES

I am seeking the parents of my great great grandmother, Jane (McLean/McLin/Macklin) born Mifflin County, PA., 29 May 1805, who married Barney Brady, an Irish immigrant, 29 July 1829; and has children, Polly, William, Jerome, Sarah J., James, John, Ezra, and Wealthy (or Welthy). The family was found in Hambden Township, Geauga County, Ohio census of 1850.

Please contact Patricia J. Castro at 612 -14th St. #2, Ramona, CA., 92065 if you have any information on this family.

Pat also sent in this saying from the Wayne County Genealogical Society.

"This we know: the earth does not blong to man, man belongs to the earth. All things are connected like the blood that unites us all. Man did not weave the web of life, he is merely a strand in it. Whatever he does to the web, he does to himself."

Chief Seattle

WANTED - EDITOR

SOULE KINDRED OF AMERICA, INC. IS LOOKING FOR A
NEW EDITOR OF THEIR NEWSLETTER, SOULE KINDRED.

PLEASE CONTACT THE MEMBERSHIP CHAIR BETTY-JEAN
HANER AT 53 NEW SHAKER RD., ALBANY, NY, 12205
IF YOU ARE INTERESTED

TIME
WILLINGNESS
AND
SOME TALENT

George Soule of the Mayflower and his Descendants

By Colonel John Soule

1. GEORGE SOULE, the 1620 Pilgrim, was born in England, possibly in Eckington, County of Worcestershire. Dr. Charles Edward Banks, the late noted authority on the subject says (p80 "English Ancestry and Homes of the Pilgrim Fathers" 1929) he is "tentatively identified as the son of John Soule of Eckington, Worcester, and probably kinsman to Robert Soule, a wealthy London salter, who died in 1590 a native of Eckington". Various authors have placed the date of his birth between 1590 and 1600 - let's say circa 1597. We are reasonably certain as this is written (March 1967) that no record has actually been found confirming either date or place (see COMMENTARY following this biographical sketch). We do know that George Soule died at Duxbury, Plymouth County, Massachusetts probably in January 1680 (new style- as the inventory of his estate was taken 22 Jan 1679 (old style) or 1 Feb 1680 (new style). (See appended excerpts from THE MAYFLOWER DESCENDANT 2:81-84). According to Banks "the name of Mary Bucket (undoubtedly a variant of Beckett) the wife of George Soule, who came in the ANNE (arrived Plymouth on 31 Jul 1623) should be looked for in the parish of St. Botolph, Aldersgate, London". (We would suspect from this that Dr. Banks did not look). It seems safe to assume that George & Mary were married at Plymouth and probably in 1623 shortly after her arrival. In fact, Ridlon (p186) theorizes that they had known each other in London and that a matrimonial understanding brought her to America, although Ridlon definitely is in error concerning her arrival in 1622 (see Samuel Eliot Morison's 1952 edition of William Bradford's "Of Plymouth Plantation 1620-1647" pp 43n, 125, 127, 130-2, 148n and 154). George Soule received a land lot for building in 1623 indicating the probability that he was at least considering marriage if not already married at that time. This lot was situated on the south side of the brook to baywards (PLYMOUTH COLONY RECORDS 12:4). We can be reasonably certain that the marriage took place no later than 1626 since the family of George Soule included his wife Mary and son Zachariah on 22 May 1627 when their names were listed in the division of cattle (PLYMOUTH COLONY RECORDS 12:12). Mary died at Duxbury in December 1676.

In listing the passengers in the Mayflower, Bradford says (Morison edition p441) "Mr. Edward Winslow, Elizabeth his wife and two men-servants called George Soule and Elias Story; also a little girl was put to him called Ellen, the sister of Richard More". Later (on p444) Bradford wrote "One of his servants died, as also the little girl, soon after the ships arrival. But his man George Soule is still living and hath eight children." Here is a minor puzzle. Morison theorizes that the first quotation was written about 1647/48; the second about 1650. Since George & Mary (Bucket) Soule had nine children, was Bradford in error in his count or was Morison in error in placing this writing in 1650? Or was their youngest child born after that date? A frequently repeated explanation of the Winslow-Soule relationship places the latter as a tutor of the Winslow children. It is much more logical and concomitant with the times if the term "servant" is read as "employee". Winslow was a relatively wealthy man and one of the financial backers of the Plymouth Colony venture. We find that he made repeated voyages between Plymouth and England, and had no children until after George Soule married and had his own family (see Hubert Kinney Shaw's 1956 "Families of the Pilgrims" and Plymouth Colony Records). We also know that George Soule was the 35th of the 41 signers of the Mayflower Compact of 11 Nov 1620 (see SOULE NEWSLETTER 1:1).

In July 1627 George Soule was one of a group of fifty-eight "Purchasers or Old Comers" who assumed the Colony's debt to "The Adventurers" who were the promoters and capitalists who financed the voyage of the Mayflower and other early ventures and expenses of the colony. In return the former group was granted trading concessions in Maine, at Cape Ann, Buzzards Bay and subsequently on the Connecticut River. The General Court, the governing body of the colony, voted 5 Mar 1639/40 to pay these "Purchasers or Old Comers" for the surrender of their patent (see Morison pp37, 184-196 and 429; also Plymouth Colony Records).

The date of the removal of George Soule and his family from Plymouth to Duxbury, or Ducksborrow as it was called originally, has not been established. However, we are of the opinion that it was some years earlier than the frequently cited date of 1645. According to the Plymouth Colony Records he was named with 88 others on the Plymouth Tax List of 2 Jan 1632/33; was a freeman of the incorporation of Plymouth in 1633; taxed 00:09:00 on 25 Mar 1633; was ordered 1 Jul 1633 to mow grass for cow near his dwelling house; again on the Plymouth Tax list with 80 others 2 Jan 1633/34 and was taxed 00:09:00 on 27 Mar 1634; on 14 Mar 1635/36 assigned land for haying for 1636; and on 6 Oct 1636 The General Court granted to Will Bradford for Constant and Thomas Southworth "land now in occupation of George Soule and from thence to swamp on north side of Eele River". Obviously still of Plymouth, he was ordered by The General Court on 10 May 1637 to provide "heigh wayes" from his house next the river Eel thence over the river by bridge. Soon thereafter his interests shifted to Duxbury as he was assigned a garden place on "Ducksborrow sie * * to lye to his ground at Powder Point" on 4 Dec 1637; and on 7 May 1638 he was granted one acre at the watering place and two additional acres at "Pouder Point". In the trek to Duxbury, George Soule was following rather than leading a trend. As early as 1632 Bradford wrote (Morison pp 252-53) "Also the people of the Plantation began to grow in their outward estates, by reason of the flowing of many people into the country, especially into the Bay of

the Massachusetts. By which means corn and cattle rose to a great price, by which many were much enriched and commodities grew plentiful. And yet in other regards this benefit turned to their hurt, and this accession of strength to their weakness. For now as their stocks increased and the increase vendible, there was no longer any holding them together, but now they must of necessity go to their great lots. They could not otherwise keep their cattle, and having oxen grown they must have land for plowing and tillage." Duxbury was granted permission to establish its own church in 1632 (Morison p253) and became a separate town on 7 Jun 1637 (Plymouth Colony Records 2:62). George Soule may have been living in Duxbury 5 May 1640 when he was appointed to view and measure meadows at Greenes Harbor and on 2 Nov 1640 when he was granted by The General Court "meddow he desires against Mr. Prince' land at Greenes Harbor". It may be of interest that Greenes Harbor became Rexhame on 2 Mar 1640, later Marshfield (Plymouth Colony Records 11:37).

In 1639 Plymouth Colony established representative government after finding it no long practicable to have all the colonists participate as individuals. George Soule appeared before The General Court on 27 Sep 1642 as one of the two "Deputies" or representatives from Duxbury. Consequently, it seems logical to presume that he must have become a resident well before his assumption of that office. Other Plymouth Colony Records show that George Soule was selected as a grand jurymen for Duxbury on 7 Mar 1642/43 (2:53); was on the list of freemen in Duxbury in 1643 (8:175); sworn to "The Grand Inquest" 6 Jun 1643 (2:56); appointed to review and make report of land 4 Jun 1645 (2:88); committeeman (duputy) of General Court 28 Oct 1645, again 3 Mar 1645/46, 7 July 1646, 5 Jun 1651, 7 Jun 1653 and 6 Jun 1654. Note here that the Colony did not permit its officers to be elected for more than one year at a time to prevent the formation of an entrenched bureaucracy. Other public assignments included his appearance on 7 Mar 1653/54 when he "acted" regarding the confederation with Massachusetts (Plymouth Colony Records 3:44); and, what has generally been given considerable weight of importance by other writers on the subject, his appointment 5 Jun 1650 to a committee of The General Court on making and repealing laws (Plymouth Colony Records 11:56 and 59). An interesting earlier assignment came 20 Oct 1646 when with Anthony Thatcher he formed "a committee to draw up an order concerning disorderly drinking of tobacco" (Plymouth Colony Records 2:108).

We can find only two court cases in which George Soule was personally involved - both times as plaintiff and prevailing both times. On 3 Jan 1636/37 the jury found for him in his complaint against Nathaniel Thomas "who trespassed and attached two heiffers" (Plymouth County Records 7:4) and on 27 Oct 1674 won-in-law John Peterson was fined on complaint of George Soule regarding lands at Powder Point in Duxbury (Colony Records 7:193). George Soule was a member of the jury on 1 Jun 1647 hearing the complaint of Thomas Prence against Edward Holeman and Nicolas Hodges (Colony Records 7:117). He and Jostiah Winslow took inventory 26 Sep 1651 of the estate of William Thomas of Marshfield (NEH&GR 4:319); was one of the jurors on 3 Jun 1656 deciding the division of lands of Arthur Howland and Thomas Chillingsworth, deceased (Colony Records 3:102); was appointed 1 Jun 1658 to set boundary between Mr. Bourne's and Anthony Snowes' lands at Marshfield (Colony Records 3:138); a juror on 3 Mar 1662/63 in action between Richard Church and John Thompson as plaintiffs against Captain Willett (Colony Records 7:108); and was a witness 6 Mar 1667/68 to the will of John Barnes of Plymouth (NEH&GR 7:236).

George Soule is also found in court in close support of his family. On 7 Mar 1653/54 he appeared to request a continuance for his son John (Plymouth Colony Records 3:47) and on 5 Mar 1667/68 George Soule, Sr., joined by his son John, gave bond in amount of 10:00:00 for son Nathaniel (Colony Records 4:179).

George Soule was involved in a large number of land transactions. A few of them pertinent to establishing his places of residence have already been mentioned. Most of the others appear immaterial and irrelevant to his biography. However, it does seem important that he, with a number of others, purchased extensive lands from the Indians on 29 Nov 1652 in the area which became Dartmouth 8 Jun 1664. His interests in these lands were conveyed to sons Nathaniel and George (Boston Court Records #1128 and #8324). When Bridgewater was set off from Duxbury on 3 Jun 1656 (Plymouth Colony Records 3:101) he was one of the original proprietors of that town but soon disposed of his property there. George Soule, with others, was also an original purchaser of "Middleberry" or Middleboro on 7 Mar 1661 of the so called "Twenty-Six Men's Purchase" confirmed 3 Jun 1662 by the Plymouth General Court; also Lot 21 "bounded with two red oak trees marked" on Pochade Neck near Nemasket (Indian name for Middleboro) circa 1663/64. In 1668 Georgd Soule conveyed his lands in Middleboro to his sons-in-law Francis Walker and John Haskell, Sr., and their wives Elizabeth (Soule) Walker and Patience (Soule) Haskell. The remainder of his "housing and lands whatsoever" were bequeathed by his will (copy of which is appended) to his son John as were his personal effects. The same document bequeathed a small amount of cash to his daughters Sussanah and Mary who were not there identified as married.

Early in 1637 the Pequot (sometimes Pequin or Pequod) Indians "fell openly upon the English at Connecticut". In response to a plea for assistance, the Plymouth General Court agreed forthwith to send fifty men. George Soule volunteered for this service on 7 Jun 1637 (Plymouth Colony Records 1:60) as one of 42 men under Lieutenant William Holmes and Reverend Thomas Prence as chaplain "but when they were ready to march * * * they had word to stay; for the enemy was as good as vanquished and there would be no need (Morison pp 294 and 295). Several reliable sources report that five years later George Soule was appointed to the committee for offensive and defensive war. However, we failed to find reference to this in the Plymouth Colony Records. Both George and his son Zachariah appear in the August 1643 roster of Duxbury men aged 16 to 60 and able to bear arms (Plymouth County Records 8:189 and NEH&GR 4:256). His only other military service appears during King Philip's War in 1675 when an eye witness identified George Soule as a member of the party which occupied the fort at Middleboro for about six weeks (Weston's 1906 "History of Middleboro p35). Admitting that George Soule, Sr., was an original proprietor of Middleboro, the disposal of his property there in 1668 coupled with his advancing age tend to raise doubts in our mind as to his actual presence. Perhaps his son George Soule, Jr. (1639-1704) was the one in the Middleboro fort party of 1675!

In the matter of religion, we've never found any valid evidence to support the often cited claim that George Soule was a French Huguenot or even of French Huguenot descent. Since we do not even know for certain the date and place of his birth nor the identity of his ancestors, it would appear presumptuous to assign arbitrarily such a background unless or until clearly established by facts rather than theory. Certainly, after migration to America he has appeared to conform fully to the precepts and membership requirements of the First Parish Church in Plymouth; later to the church at Duxbury although his wife Mary was fined 10 shillings on 1 Mar 1658/59 for absence from church. The many impassioned and obviously prejudiced writings of that era and arguments over mere semantics make it difficult to provide a brief and objective evaluation or definition of the local churches. It is generally accepted that the "puritans" espoused "purification" or reform of the established English Church whereas "separatists" desired complete separation. Bradford (Morison p153) denies that the Pilgrims were separatists. None-the-less our Pilgrim forebears of Plymouth Colony were to a large measure responsible solely to themselves and to their own interpretation of the written word of God with no bishop or other hierarchy of supervision. In the light of 1967 standards at least, their vaunted religious freedom must be suspect. Laws were passed against the Baptists in 1644 and several of them were cruelly dealt with. The Quakers were also persecuted, more particularly from 1656 to 1662, four being put to death and many others whipped, imprisoned, branded or banished during that period. The last decade of the 17th Century was also marked by the witchcraft delusion, mainly in Salem village during 1691 and 1692. In all, some 32 persons were executed on charges of witchcraft. The Pilgrims were significantly serious and cold blooded in the interpretation and execution of what they considered to be the laws of God. One Thomas Granger, aged about 16 or 17, was executed at Plymouth on 8 Sep 1642 for unnatural sexual relations with several animals and the animals were destroyed with no use made of their flesh to avoid spreading sin (Morison pp316, 319-21, 322n, 404-12).

The children of George and Mary (Bucket or Beckett) Soule were probably all born at Plymouth although some of the younger ones may have been born at Duxbury. Birth dates of some of their children have been established by historic information but dates for the remainder as well as the sequence are given below in a somewhat arbitrary but presumed logical placement:

- 2 I ZACHARIAH² SOULE was born no earlier than 1624 and no later than May 1627; say circa 1624 to 1626.
- 3 II ELIZABETH² SOULE was perhaps the next child and therefore presumed to have been born 1627-28.
- 4 III PATIENCE² SOULE was perhaps the next child and therefore presumed to have been born circa 1630.
- 5 IV JOHN² SOULE was born circa 1632.
- 6 V SUSANNAH² SOULE was perhaps the next child and therefore presumed to have been born circa 1634.
- 7 VI MARY² SOULE was perhaps the next child and therefore presumed to have been born circa 1636.
- 8 VII NATHANIEL² SOULE was perhaps the next child and therefore presumed to have been born circa 1637 or 1632.
- 9 VIII GEORGE² SOULE was probably born in 1639 or thereabouts.
- IX BENJAMIN² SOULE was perhaps the youngest and therefore presumed to have been born circa 1641. We do know that he was killed during King Philip's War in action with the Indians before Pawtucket on Sunday, 26 Mar 1676. However, there is no evidence that he ever married or left issue.

COMMENTARY

- (1) Every effort has been made to assure completeness and accuracy on the foregoing biography of GEORGE SOULE, Sr. The following source and reference material has been consulted and considered:

Plymouth County Records - "Records of the Colony of New Plymouth in New England (1620-1692)" edited by Nathaniel P. Shurtleff and David Pulsifer.

"Mourt's Relation" - edited 1865 by H. M. Dexter.

"Story of the Old Colony of New Plymouth (1620-1692)" - New York 1956.

"Historical Data Relating to Counties, Cities and Towns in Massachusetts" prepared by Kevin H. White, Secretary of the Commonwealth - 1966.

"Of Plymouth Plantation 1620-1647" by William Bradford - Edited with an Introduction and Notes by Samuel Eliot Morison, Professor of American History, Harvard University - 1952.



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A WOMAN OF THE NINETIES

Aileen Riggins Soule is a Soule by name only but her accomplishments remind us of Pilgrim George. He too paved the way so that others might follow. For those going to the Summer Olympics in Atlanta in 1996, it would be nice to meet and greet this grand lady of Olympic History.

Howard S. Soule from California wrote that quite possibly he and Aileen's second husband are related though distantly. How many other Howard Soules are there? John D. Soule of California also sent me this article on Aileen Riggins Soule.

WHEN THE OFFICIALS CALLED IN 1984 to see if Aileen Riggins Soule—a swimming star at the 1920 and 1924 Olympics—could attend the '84 Games, they asked if she could still walk. They clearly had not done their homework: Aileen, who was then 78 and still swimming (and, yes, still walking), would go on to set six world records for swimmers in her age group in 1991.

Today, at 88, Aileen is believed to be the oldest living American winner of an Olympic gold medal. Her Olympic experience started young: As Aileen Riggins, she won the three-meter dive at the 1920 Olympics in Antwerp, Belgium, when she was 14. Then, at the Paris Olympics in 1924, she captured both a silver medal in diving and a bronze in the backstroke.

Currently in the 85-89 age group in World Masters swimming, Aileen holds six world records in freestyle and backstroke sprints. She's a bit concerned about her records, however. "There are a couple of younger girls," she said, "who will be 85 next year and who are going to be tough competition for me."

"I live in Hawaii," she went on, "and I go down to the ocean on most days and swim a quarter to a half of a mile, depending on how I feel. I also try to stretch every day. Friends of mine in Hawaii were competing in World Masters swimming and took me over to a pool, and I competed. That's how I started."

Aileen first took up sports following an influenza epidemic in 1917. "After I got over the flu," she said, "my mom started me swimming to help me get my strength back."

"The 1920 Olympics were the first where the U.S. swim team sent women to

compete," added Aileen, who received her medal from King Albert of Belgium. "They didn't start having awards ceremonies with the anthems being played until the '32 Olympics in Los Angeles."

When she got home, Aileen found that she was famous. "They made a fuss over all the athletes," she said, "especially the women. They had a big parade for us in

New York and a banquet at the Waldorf-Astoria." She took ballet lessons at New York's Metropolitan Opera House and continued to swim.

"A funny story," she recalled, "is that after high school, on my way to the Met, I would have to go by a corner where a huge policeman named Pat McDonald directed traffic. In this big voice, he'd yell over to me, 'Hey, kid! How ya doing today?' [McDonald knew her from the 1920 Games, where he won a gold medal in the 56-pound weight throw]. Then he'd stop traffic, pull a cab over and order the driver to take me to the Met."

After the 1924 Games, she married Dr. Dwight D. Young, and they had a daughter, Yvonne. "He was injured in World War II and eventually passed away," said Aileen. "I got

remarried [to Howard Soule, an executive in the woolens industry], and all this time I continued to swim for exercise."

Any diet secrets? Aileen said she normally has cereal with low-fat milk and fruit in the morning, soup and salad for lunch, and fish and a glass of wine for dinner. She also likes chicken.

Aileen Riggins Soule has been invited to the Olympics in Atlanta next year as a guest of honor. With six world records in her pocket, it seems unlikely that anyone will ask if she can still walk.



Aileen Riggins Soule today at 88 and (below) as a 14-year-old diver at the Olympic Games in Belgium in 1920.



Michael O'Shea, Ph.D., is founder and chairman of Sports Training Institute.

RECORDING OF FAMILY DATA

By Geraldine Soule Schlosser, Soule Kindred Historian

One of the objectives of Soule Kindred is the gathering of information pertaining to the descendants of Pilgrim George Soule. Mayflower Families 3 covers the first 5 generations, to about 1800. Our families did a lot of moving around in the 19th century, and you can help locate migration patterns for family groups. That is why the Family Data Chart is printed in each issue of the Newsletter. Our historian may be able to help you with that "missing link". So please keep the information coming.

We would like to suggest that you begin with your sixth generation ancestor from George Soule (or your earliest Soule ancestor, if you haven't made the connection to George¹). Fill out a form for that ancestor, and then submit forms for each of your ancestors down to yourself. This is especially important if you descend through a female line; Soule women who marry tend to become lost Soules.

We'll give a short explanation of how to fill out the form. Samples were printed in V. 20, #2 and #3-- April and July, if you'd like to refer to those.

(1) The "Generation" space in the upper left corner shows the generation from the immigrant ancestor. Please leave it blank unless you are certain.

(2) In the far upper space on the right for "FAMILY", leave it blank if the surname of "Soule Descendant" is SOULE, SOWLE, or variants, because we'll assign a code number for closely related family groups. If the "Soule Descendant" has a different surname, insert the name in the right upper space.

(3) The next two lines show the ancestors of the "Soule Descendant" back to George Soule¹. Unless you have an approved Mayflower Lineage or other positive proof, we suggest this be left blank.

(4) When writing dates, follow the genealogical style-- first the day in numbers, then the month in letters, and the full year, such as 6 Feb 1833.

(5) When listing children on the reverse side, put in as much information as you can-- such as spouse's parents, if known.

(6) List your name and address as compiler unless someone else gathers the information. We may need to contact the compiler.

(7) It is VERY important to list sources of data; if the information comes from a family Bible or other record, a photocopy of the information should be included. Other sources, such as Vital Records from towns or states, and census should be indicated.

(8) Leave "Verification" blank for our purposes.

(9) Please give as many clues as possible to facilitate further research. If you are uncertain about a date, enter it, but add "circa" or "ca". For questionable place names, add "possibly" or "probably".

Send completed forms to;

SOULE KINDRED IN AMERICA
Geraldine Soule Schlosser, Historian
801 E. Brownell St.
Tomah, WI 54660-2201
608/372-7018

Soule Kindred

	Generation	Family
Soule Descendant	_____	
Ancestral Line	(_____)	
Parentage	son/dau of _____ and _____ (_____)	
Birth or baptism	was b. _____ at _____	
Death	died _____ at _____	
Burial	buried at _____ Cemetery	
Residences and removals	Resided _____	
Occupation	_____	
Military service	_____	
Other biographical data	_____ _____ _____ _____	
	He/She married _____	
	on _____ at _____	
Parentage	son/dau of _____ and _____ (_____)	
Birth or Baptism	He/She was b _____ at _____	
Death	and died _____ at _____	
Burial	buried at _____ Cemetery	
Biographical	_____ _____ _____	
Other marriages	_____ _____ _____	

SILAS SOULE A HERO HISTORY FORGOT

by Alma Margaret Brown

Technical assistance
by Jerry Binkley, Jr.

Some men in the span of a short lifetime contributed immeasurably to the development of the American West; yet they are all but forgotten by history. Such a man was Captain Silas S. Soule.

In the space of eleven years, Soule was involved in many spectacular events of the War Between the States. His road through history took him from the bloody Kansas of the jayhawker to the battlefields of eastern Colorado.

Born in 1839, Si Soule went to Kansas at fifteen with his father, Amasa Soule. The elder Soule had been sent there by a group of Boston abolitionists to establish an underground railroad for escaping slaves. Si actively guided slaves on their perilous way to freedom.

THE UNDERGROUND RAILROAD

As one of the freebooting Kansas jayhawkers, Soule's greatest escapade was the rescue of Doctor John Doy in



SILAS STILLMAN⁸ SOULE (1838-1865)

Photograph courtesy of Denver Public Library, Western Collection

1859. Doctor Doy was conducting a group of Negroes from Lawrence, Kansas, to safety when he was captured. Soule, with four other men, rescued Doy from the Saint Joseph, Missouri jail.

As a result of the publicity he received for his part in the Doy escape, Soule was selected to help rescue John Brown from Harper's Ferry. The mission was never attempted due to Brown's refusal to be rescued.

Brown went to his death in December, 1859, but his friends were not dissuaded from making an attempt to save two of his men also imprisoned at Harper's Ferry, Aaron Stevens and Albert Hazlett. Soule was contacted by James Montgomery to help with the escape. From Kansas, he made his way east with two other men from the Doy episode. They reached Harrisburg in a blinding snowstorm.

Soule and Montgomery left the others in Harrisburg and proceeded openly to Charleston. While Montgomery waited on the outskirts of town, Soule entered Charleston alone. Using a talent to mimic the Irish he had learned as a boy, Soule convinced the authorities that he was nothing more than a highly intoxicated, jovial young Irish laborer. To his delight, he was tossed into the jail where Stevens and Hazlett were being held.

Soule entertained the jailer's family with Irish songs and a jocular patter. Vigilance relaxed, and Soule was able to talk to Hazlett and Stevens. Both men were deeply moved by the efforts, but they told Soule that a rescue was virtually impossible. There were eighty men guarding the jail, and they wanted to avoid bloodshed. Discharged the next morning, Soule returned to Harrisburg and a council of war at Drover's Tavern. He reported Hazlett's and Steven's

wishes. They weighed the prisoner's request with the difficulties of making good the escape, and decided against the attempt. They dispersed leaving the prisoners to their fate.

Soule returned to Kansas via Philadelphia where he met and became friends with Walt Whitman. The poet gave Soule a personally inscribed copy of his poems which Soule carried with him through the War Between the States. After returning to Kansas, Soule caught the gold fever and headed for the diggings in Colorado Territory. He worked a claim in the brawling mountain gulch called Geneva. Soule met famous Indian fighter and pathfinder Kit Carson. He joined Carson's scouts as a lieutenant.

CIVIL WAR ACTIVITIES

At the outbreak of the War Between the States, Colorado Territory found itself a lively battlefield for Yankee and Southerner alike. Territorial Governor William Gilpin raised the 1st Colorado Regiment of Volunteers to combat the Confederate threat to the gold fields. Soule joined the 1st Colorado as a lieutenant of Company K under Captain Samuel Robbins in August, 1861.

All effective Southern resistance in Colorado was destroyed by autumn 1861. Eyes then turned towards New Mexico and the advance of Texas soldiers under Confederate General Henry H. Sibley. They moved with little opposition up the Rio Grande River to Santa Fe. General Edward Canby, Commander at Fort Union, finally convinced Colonel John Slough to bring his 1st Colorado south to help meet the Confederate threat. They marched from Denver February 22, 1862. From Fort Union, they continued towards Santa Fe. At the mountain pass of Glorieta on March 26, they fell upon the Confederate troops. A tough battle was fought, in which

Soule bravely led his troops in a wild assault on the Southern invaders. Again, during the seven hour battle on March 28, Soule sat his horse as calmly as if on parade as he fired into the yelling Texans.

The Confederate troops were soundly defeated, and Sibley began his retreat down the Rio Grande to El Paso. Colonel Slough wanted to pursue the retreating Southerners, but General Canby refused to issue the orders.



Major John M. Chivington
Photograph courtesy of the
Denver Public Library,
Western Collection

Slough resigned and was replaced by Major John M. Chivington, a former Methodist minister and a hero at Glorieta. Chivington had ignored orders on March 26 to avoid a general engagement with the Confederates and had soundly defeated them at Apache Canyon. On March 28, he destroyed the Confederate supply wagons. Both days he showed con-

spicuous courage on the field of battle. At forty-one, he was a man of immense size, six and a half feet tall, and wore a fine black beard. At the outbreak of the war, he had been offered the regimental chaplaincy, but had asked for a fighting assignment instead.

INDIAN ACTIVITIES

Throughout 1863 and 1864, Denver lived in constant dread of Indian attack. Public hysteria influenced Chivington, Governor John Evans, and Rocky Mountain News editor William N. Byers to back a policy of treating all Indians as hostiles. Soule, now a captain of Company D, 1st Colorado, backed up his commanding officer at Fort Lyon, Major Ned Wynkoop, one of Denver's founders, in wanting to make peace with the Arapahoes and Cheyennes.

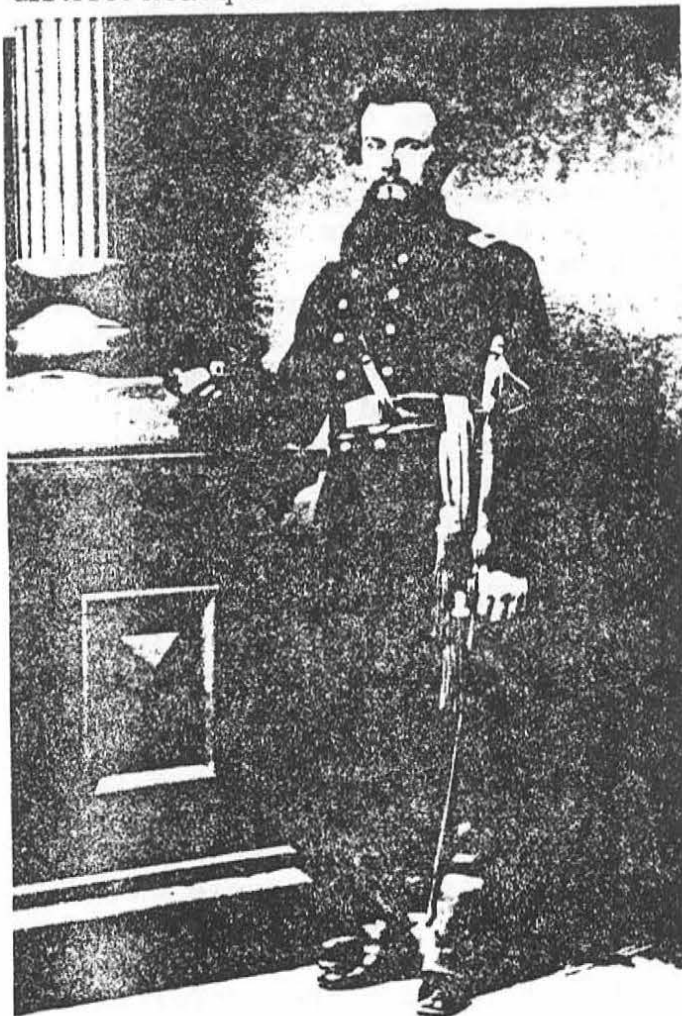
In September, Wynkoop was asked by Cheyenne Chief Black Kettle to meet for a peace council. Wynkoop led a squadron of mounted troops to Big Timbers on the Smokey Hill River where the main chiefs of the Arapahoes and Cheyennes waited. He left his troops and entered the hostile looking Indian encampment with only Soule and Lieutenants Joseph Cramer and Charles Phillips. After a conference of several hours, Wynkoop and his officers returned to their own camp to await Black Kettle's decision. The next day Black Kettle came to Wynkoop's camp and agreed to go to Denver to meet with Governor Evans for a peace agreement.

Wynkoop and Soule took the Indian chiefs to Denver. At first, Governor Evans refused to see the chiefs, but finally agreed after Wynkoop's insistence. Soule and Wynkoop brought the chiefs to nearby Camp Weld where Evans and Chivington waited. Throughout the conference, both Evans and Chivington were cold and unfriendly towards the Indians. The Indians, despite the hostile atmosphere, agreed to winter on the

banks of Sand Creek thirty miles from Fort Lyon where they could be watched by Wynkoop and his men. To both Soule's and Wynkoop's surprise and relief, Chivington apparently agreed cheerfully to the settlement.

Hopeful that peace could be kept throughout the winter, Soule and Wynkoop returned to Fort Lyon with the Indians. To help the band, which was destitute and nearly starving, settle for the winter, Soule, under Wynkoop's orders, gave the Indians provisions.

Then on November 5, Major Scott Anthony arrived at Fort Lyon with orders to relieve Wynkoop of command. Wynkoop was being charged, but was never tried, with issuing supplies to hostiles in direct violation of orders from General Samuel Curtis, the Department Commander. He was ordered to report to Fort Riley, district headquarters.



Major Scott Anthony
Photograph courtesy of the Denver Public
Library, Western Collection

Anthony favored the policy of treating all Indians as enemies. Soule, infuriated by Anthony's reversal of policy, accused the new commanding officer of a breach of faith with the Indians. Anthony promptly threatened to cashier Soule from the Army. Soule replied that the sooner he got out the better he'd like it, because he didn't care to serve under a man like Anthony. Soule would have been arrested on the spot by Anthony, but the other officers intervened on Soule's behalf. Anthony wavered, and a showdown was avoided.

Soule insisted that Wynkoop remain at Fort Lyon for several days after Anthony took command. He and Lieutenant Cramer gave Wynkoop two letters supporting his policies in dealing with the Indians, one signed by the officers at Fort Lyon and the other by the citizens of the Arkansas Valley.

The night before Wynkoop's departure, Soule wrote to the post commander requesting a month's leave with permission to apply for an extension. In the request, Soule stated that he had been in the 1st Colorado for three years and had not received a furlough during that time. Anthony approved the request and forwarded it to General Curtis.

Wynkoop departed on November 26, completely unaware of the startling, tragic events that were about to occur at Sand Creek.

The next evening, Soule and Lieutenant Minton were riding west of the fort when they spotted campfires. They returned to the post, and reported the fires to Anthony, speculating that the fires might belong to raiding Kiowa Indians. The Arapahoes or Cheyennes would probably have come to the fort. Anthony, nervous about an attack from either the Kiowa or Sioux, sent Soule out before sun up the 28th with a troop of twenty men to scout the area.

Ten miles above the fort, Soule found a mule train camped on the banks of the Arkansas. The driver said he had seen no Indians up the trail, but he had seen Colonel Chivington with twelve companies of the 3rd Colorado, the 90

day men nick-named the "Bloodless Third". No one from Fort Lyon had heard anything about Chivington's approach. Soule took his company and two miles up the road met Chivington, riding a huge black mule, leading 600 blue-clad troops.

Chivington asked Soule if anyone at Fort Lyon knew of the approach of the troops and if there were any Indians at the fort. Soule said that a few Cheyenne and Arapahoe were camped outside the post, but that they weren't dangerous as they considered themselves prisoners until General Curtis confirmed their peace treaty. An officer behind Chivington was heard to remark, "They won't be prisoners after we get there," which drew a laugh from the others.

SOULE TRIES TO PREVENT SAND CREEK MASSACRE

Chivington questioned Soule closely about the Indians' encampment, their strength, and their weapons. Realizing that Chivington planned to make a surprise attack on the encampment, Soule angrily told the colonel, "You can't attack them! They're unarmed prisoners!"

Chivington turned on Soule. "No Indian-loving captain tells Chivington what to do. If you try to escape and warn anyone, you'll be put in irons!"

Chivington with fifty men rode ahead of the main column to Fort Lyon. When Soule reached the fort later, he first went to Lieutenants Cramer and Baldwin. They agreed with Soule that Chivington should be stopped. They went to see Anthony, who had been carrying out Wynkoop's peaceful measures with the Indians. They were furious to find that Anthony had completely reversed himself and favored Chivington's war-like expedition. Soule argued bitterly with Anthony, but the handsome major refused to listen. He ordered his soldiers to prepare to march at 8 o'clock that night with Chivington. Soule, who had been in the saddle twenty-seven hours, also prepared

his Company D to march, but it was under protest. Anthony warned Soule not to interfere with Chivington, because the colonel had threatened Soule for his opposition to the plan.

Cramer tried reasoning with Chivington, but the colonel stiffly replied that it was right and honorable to kill Indians that would kill women and children. He uttered the remark that was to haunt him the rest of his life: "Nits make lice."

At 8 o'clock on November 28, the command fell into formation. Over 700 troops followed Chivington from Fort Lyon into the cold, snow-blanketed darkness. They marched without rest through the freezing night. At dawn, they saw the tree lined banks of Sand Creek.

Chivington quickly deployed his troops. Soule's Company D was ordered to the south bank of the creek behind some bluffs. With the cry, "Remember the murdered women and children along the Platte!" Chivington opened fire on the sleeping lodges.

When the attack began, Black Kettle ran up the American flag in front of his tent to show that he was under the protection of the United States Army. The flag was not respected, and was found later riddled with bullet holes. The great mass of Indians milled around in terror, but Black Kettle assured them there was nothing to fear. Then the troops opened fire on the huddled mass of Indians, who panicked and began to run. For a brief time the Indians managed to throw up a hastily built line of defense across the river, but their ranks broke in a rout when cannon were ordered into battle. The troops pursued the fleeing Indians, shooting them as they ran. Aged chief White Antelope, still wearing his cherished peace medal from President Lincoln, was among the first to die.

During the battle, Soule refused to order his men to fire. He kept his

squadron together and drifted down the south bank of the creek while watching the slaughter. Soule followed the Indians more as an escort than as an enemy. He stated later in a letter to his fiancée, "I could not bring myself to serve as an instrument of a wholesale slaughter." Finally the horses were too tired to continue. Soule turned his men back to the camp. He viewed the scene of bloody slaughter with heartsick dismay. When he saw the troops mutilating and scalping the dead, he demanded that Chivington stop them from disfiguring the dead.

Chivington coldly said, "They're taking trophies from the glorious field of Sand Creek." Then he complimented Soule on his part in the great victory.

Soule bitterly retorted, "I thank God that I have not shot an Indian all day."

Chivington would have arrested Soule on the spot, but Anthony intervened. He ordered Soule to accompany him back to Fort Lyon to escort a supply train from the fort to the battlefield.

Denver gave the regiment a rousing welcome on December 22. The Rocky Mountain News praised Chivington and his men in its editorials. In an editorial dated December 8, 1864, the paper said:

This noted needed whipping of the "red skins" by our "First Expedition"... was the chief subject of comment and glorification through town today. The members of the Third and First, and First New Mexico, who collectively "cleaned out" the confederated savages on Sand Creek, have won for themselves and their commanders, from colonel down to corporal, the eternal gratitude of the dwellers of these plains.

News of the Sand Creek affair quickly reached Washington. Wynkoop was restored to command at Fort Lyon with orders to make a full investigation of the operations against the Indians. An inquiry was held in Washington, and as a result, a military commission was

ordered to convene in Denver to investigate Chivington's conduct in the Sand Creek campaign. Chivington resigned his commission in January.

Colonel Samuel Tappan, formerly of the 1st Colorado, was appointed chairman of the commission that convened on February 11, 1865. He wanted Soule to testify first because he wanted a man who could give the truth and stand up under the expected brutal cross-examination. Several attempts were made on Soule's life to dissuade him from testifying first, but Soule stood firmly to his decision. As provost marshal assigned to Denver, he was called out twice supposedly in the line of duty. Both times, attempts were made to kill him from ambush. Soule wanted to believe the attempts were not ordered by Chivington, but the obviousness of the incidents could not be ignored. Still, Soule appeared first before the commission.

The first day Soule's testimony covered the events from Big Timbers, through the council at Camp Weld, to Chivington's arrival at Fort Lyon. He testified that the Indians were peaceful and considered themselves under the protection of the Army. The next day Soule testified on the battle itself. He said he personally counted sixty-nine dead Indians. Chivington's report to Washington had stated that between 400 and 600 Indians had been killed. The majority of accounts, however, put the number killed at approximately 200. Soule also testified that he saw Indian children who had been scalped, and some with their skulls caved in. Indians of all ages and both sexes had been mutilated by the soldiers. He told of the plundering of the Indians' property and horses, naming the soldiers who had stolen and sold the ponies.

After two and one-half days of testifying for the commission, Soule faces three days of grueling cross-examination from Chivington. The colonel went over every line of Soule's

testimony, relentlessly probing for inconsistencies, for a weakening in Soule. Soule held out against Chivington for the three tension filled, exhausting days. He would not be shaken by Chivington's prodding and pushing. He conceded nothing to the huge colonel, who surprisingly did not question him on his refusal to fire on the Indians. Finally Chivington seemed to sense the uselessness of further questioning, and motioned Soule from the witness stand.

The following witnesses, Lieutenant Cramer, Frontiersman Jim Beckwith, and Major Wynkoop, all supported Soule. Chivington was confounded, angered by the resistance to his version of the affair.

Wynkoop felt the danger to Soule had passed, since his testimony had been recorded, but Soule felt differently. In March, he confided to Lieutenant George Price, District Inspector, that he expected to be killed and then to have his character blackened. He received several unsigned letters threatening his life.

THE ASSASSINATION OF SOULE

Even though he lived in constant danger, Soule married Hursey Coberly, the daughter of rancer Charles Coberly, on April 1, 1865. They moved into a house on Curtis Street in Denver. Three weeks later, Soule and his wife were returning from the theater when they heard shots. Soule grabbed his gun and ran up Lawrence Street. Near the corner of F Street, he met a former soldier of the 2nd Colorado named Tim Squiers, who was waiting with a gun. Both men fired simultaneously. Squiers' shot hit Soule in the cheek. He fell dead to the street. Squiers was wounded in the arm, but escaped.

Soule was buried three days later. The church was filled with mourners. Even Governor Evans attended. Only Chivington and his followers broke with military tradition and did not attend the funeral. Neither did he call on Soule's widow nor send her a message of condolence.

Soule's killer was apprehended

in New Mexico and returned to Denver by Lieutenant James Cannon of the 2nd New Mexico. Squiers again escaped, and Lieutenant Cannon was found mysteriously dead, a victim of poison, in his Denver hotel room.

Both Wynkoop and Tappan believed Chivington was behind Soule's and Cannon's killings, however no proof was ever advanced to substantiate the rumors that swept Denver.

The commission reconvened the day after Soule's funeral. Immediately Chivington launched into an attack on Soule's character, attempting to make him out a coward, a drunkard, and a thief. The commission refused to accept the testimony of the charges against Soule. His reputation stood intact.

The commission adjourned the last of May. Since they were only a fact-finding board, they could take no action against Chivington. But he was a broken man, and finally drifted away from Colorado, his political future destroyed by the disgrace of Sand Creek. He wandered from place to place, finally returning to his native Ohio in 1872. He purchased and ran the Blanchester Press for ten years. In 1882, he entered the race for the State Legislature, but his opponent brought up Sand Creek, and he withdrew from the campaign. He returned to Denver where William Byers helped him find several minor jobs. He died in 1894 of cancer, his last days haunted by the memories of Sand Creek.

Black Kettle escaped death at Sand Creek to lead the Indians' reign of terror along the Platte. He finally met death at the Washita in another massacre led by General George Custer. The full circle was completed in 1876 on the Little Big Horn.

Sand Creek left its legacy of blood and violence across the plains, but it also left a legacy of personal heroism. Silas Soule chose to keep his promise of peace with the Indians and to tell the truth of the tragic events of Sand Creek.

Fort Lyon C.T.
Nov. 25-5 1864.

Sir:

I have the honor to request of the General commanding the Department of Kansas leave of absence for thirty days, with permission to apply for an extension. I have been an Officer in the service of the United States for the last three years and have not been off duty or had leave of absence during that time.

I have the honor to be
Most Respectfully Your
Obedt. Servt.
Vilas. S. Soules
Capt 1st Cav of Col

To
Major Scott J. Anthony Comdg Post

Head Quarters, Fort Lyon, C.T. Nov 25th 1864 Approved and respectfully forwarded for action of the Commanding Officer, District of Upper Arkansas with the remark that Captain Soules Co. "D" 1st Cav of Colo is now in good condition at this Post the Veterans who have been on furlough have all returned and that the Company will not in my opinion suffer by his temporary absence. Scott J. Anthony Major 1st Cav of Colo Comdg Post

Head Quarters Dist Upper Ark Fort Riley Dec 7-64 Approved and respectfully forwarded to Maj C S Howlet AAGenl Dept of Kansas for the action of the General Comdg B. S. Henning Maj 3rd Wis Cavy Comdg Dist

Comdg Genl Dept Kansas Resp'y returned Not approved The regiment has got to be mustered out or reorganized immediately S R Curtis MajGen

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