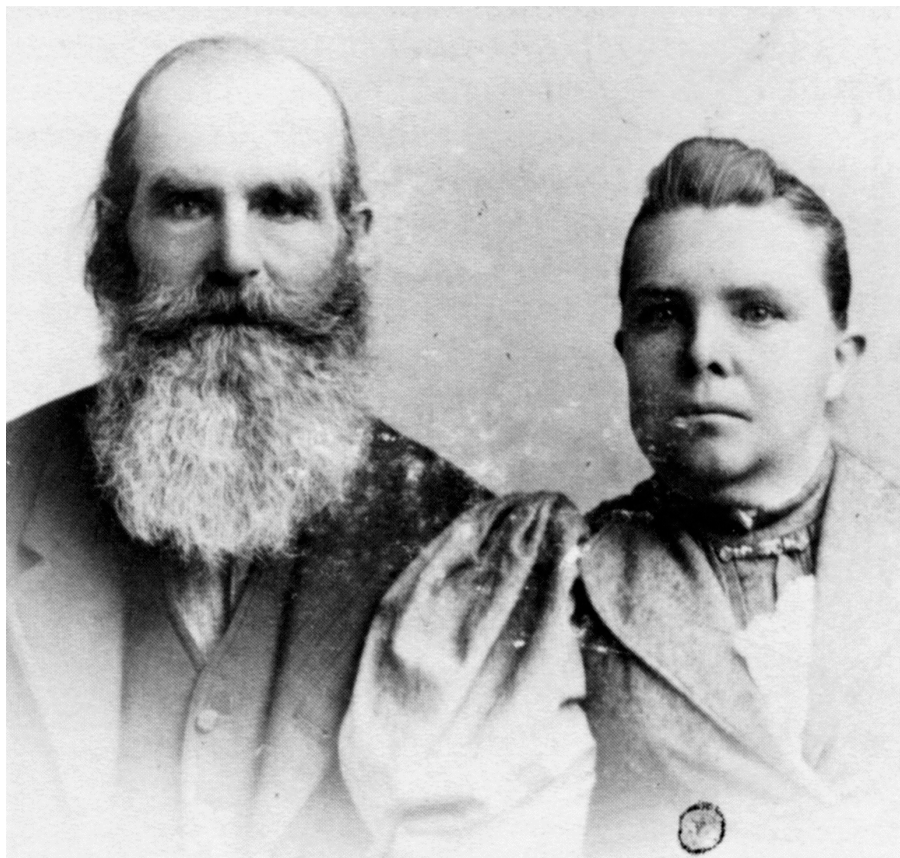


JAMES J. AND FANNIE (THOMPSON) SOULE



James J. and Fannie (Thompson) Soule

It was November 1848 that the first white man came to settle in what is now known as Soules Creek — James J. Soule, a native of Lafayette County, Wisconsin. He married Fannie Thompson shortly after arrival.

Their first home was three miles from the nearest neighbor. The country was wild and desolate. Here they stayed a few weeks when the Indians became bold and arrogant. The redmen would go to Rockbridge to trade and there get whiskey. On their return trip they would stop at the log cabin and attempt to take from their small amount of food. Mrs. Soule would grab a club and forcefully drive them away. The braves would shout, laugh and say, "Heap Brave Squaw?"

Mr. Soule was a hunter and lumberman by occupation, thus gone from home a good portion of the time. Fearing for the safety of his wife, they moved to the village of Rockbridge. In the spring they returned to their claim where they stayed the summer of 1852. In 1857 they moved to Fair Ground, where James J. died in 1906. He was born February 1828. Fannie M. was born November 1832 and died January 1916.

James and Fannie Soule had eight children: David F.; Emma; Louisa E.; George W.; Mary E., married William Poole; Luella; and W. Fredrick, never married, died in his twenties; another son died in infancy.

George Soule married Bertha Trussel. They had nine children: Louie James married May Paddock and had nine children; Grace Bell married Clarence Dutch Jewell and had five children; Fannie L. married William Crawford, had three children; Alice married Robert Mead, had ten children; Myrtle married William Slaney, had ten children; Fred W. married Zetta M. Fry, three children; Violet married Victor Keegan, had four children; a boy died in infancy. At some point, George changed the spelling of his last name to Sole.

This is a story told to the writer by Bertha Trussel Sole: When James J. Soule settled on Soules Creek, one day an Indian came into his log cabin, which meant trouble. James motioned for his wife to go and pretend she was going to the woodpile to pick up chips in her apron, but to keep on going. James followed her shortly and picked up an ax as he went by the woodpile. He said the Indian followed him no farther, after he crossed the foot log across the creek. Years later, it's assumed, the bones that were found were that of the Indian.

Fred W. Sole married Zetta M. Fry August 1930; they had three children: Bertha A., born July 1933, married James Casper October 1955. They had six children: Susan P., Michael J., Frederick J., Barbara J., Robert C., Edward.

Betty L., born August 1935, married Gerald Mabry, February 1956. They had four children: Robert, Paul, Timothy and Geraldine. She is now married to Harvey Fogo.

Fredrick W., born August 1942, has four children: Todd F., Tracy Ray, Heather L., Jenna M. His present wife is Janice M. Westley. They live in Loyd.

Louie James, Jr., Sole lives in Illinois and has three sons and one daughter.

There are other Sole descendants who still live in Richland County.

Most of these people were farmers, carpenters, mechanics, truck drivers etc.

Submitted by Zetta Powell