

This is the will of **John Denney, (Denny)**

s/o Benjamin & Barbara (?) Denney

**John Denney, (Denny)**

b. ca. 1771, NC

d. ca. 1847, Smith Co., TN – Will signed the 13<sup>th</sup> of May 1847

**md** ca. 1794, **Sarah “Sally” Winfree** – d/o James Winfree & Elizabeth Jones

\*See Chapter 4 – [www.ajlambert.com](http://www.ajlambert.com)

Will of John Denney

*Will dated 13<sup>th</sup> of May 1847, Smith Co., TN*

Smith Co., Tennessee

Will Book #7 1843-1864

Pg. 92 – Will

Pg. 93 - Probate

I John Denney do make and publish this my last will and testament hereby revoking all and making void all other wills by me at any time made. The 1st I direct my final expenses and all my debts to be paid as soon after my death as possible out of any money that I may die processed of or may first come into the hands of Executors. Secondly I will and bequeath my children the whole of my estate consisting of notes, money and land etc. and tenant's house, whole furniture to be sold to the highest bidder according to law by the direction of my Executor and Distributions as follows; to wit, and thirdly I bequeath unto my son Willie Denny a full share of my estate that I may live till after my death. Fourthly to my son Zachariah Denny a full share after deducting fifty five dollars should he live longer than I do if he the said Zachariah Denny departs this life his aires to have one half a share. Fifthly to my granddaughter Harriet Spallings formally Harriet Wilkerson one half a share or to her aires, if she has any, if not to come back to my own aires. Sixthly to Elizabeth Winfree a full share. The seventhly to my son Charles Denny two full shares of my estate and after deducting fifty two dollars also one of the beds. Also I bequeath to my son Benjamin Denny a full share after deducting of fifty dollars. And ninthly to my son Gaberle Denny two dollars in a balance that I have donated to him and I do hereby nominate and appoint my before son, Charles Denny my executor in witness whole of this my will. I set my hand and seal this the 13<sup>th</sup> of May 1847. Signed, sealed and sealed and published in our presence and we have subscribed our names here unto in presence of the testator this the 13<sup>th</sup> of May 1847.

Testators:

Jesse Butts

James M. Winfrey

his  
John Denney  
mark

State of Tennessee Smith County June Term County Court 1847. Here the last will and Testament of John Deny dcd was produced in open court for probate and recording proved by the oath of Jesse Butts and James M Winfree subscribing witnesses to the same and \_\_\_\_\_ ordered to be recorded. J. T. Burnett Clk of Smith County Court.

***Again with the Denney, Denny, Deny. Deny seems to have been the spelling of choice for many of the county officials, as it is used on almost all of the tax records of the 1830s as well. The name James M. Winfrey could be (James Maderson Winfree, s/o David Nicholas Winfree, s/o James Winfree who md Elizabeth Jones). John Denney md Sally Winfree, d/o James Winfree & Elizabeth Jones. Sally was the sister of David Nicholas Winfree.***

### Inventory of John Denney, Sr.'s estate

#### Charles Denney, Executor

Name	Item	Cost
Zachariah Denney	1 side sole leather	1.93
	1 cutting knife	.80
	1 log chain	.50
	4 yards Brown Jeans	1.52
	3 jars 1 crock and jug	1.00
	1 lot of tinware	.77
	1 kettle and hooks	1.35
	1 bed and furniture	10.00
	52 pounds of bacon	2.60
	1 clock	3.05
	1 cow	5.00
	1 bottle of turpentine	.17
	1 sleigh	.20
	677 pounds of Cotton	1.51
	1 bar of rolled iron	.88
	Benjamin Denney	1 bag nails
1 barrel of salt		.55
1 barrel of soap		.65
1 suam (?)		1.00
1 bedstead		.42
9 bushels of wheat		3.60
46 pounds of cotton		1.16
William Jones	1 barrell and gun	.20
	1 scythe blade	.80
Charles Denney	1 truck	1.20
	1 plain singletree	.60

	1 ax	.35
	cups and saucers	.15
	7 plates	.25
	2 dishes and 2 potts	.50
	Pinchers	.25
	1 churn	.10
	1 small oven and lid	.75
	1 trough of soap	1.75
	1 bed and furniture	10.50
	1 hat	1.50
	1 bible	.25
	2 pair of half haws	.30
	1 box and haws	.50
	1 bedstead	3.77
	48 pounds of bacon	2.28
	50 pounds of bacon	2.50
	65 pounds of bacon	2.50
	1 ring and steeple	.43
	1 keg	.25
	Apples	.25
	5 bushels of rye	1.08
	1 till box	.15
	1 saddle tree	.15
	5 bee stands	5.00
	1 table and chamber pot	.50
	Hames and Traces	.40
James M. Winfrey	6 yards domestic cloth	.66
	1 ax	.50
	1 set knives and forks	1.20
	1 pot and skillett	.45
	1 pot	.35
	1 oven and lid	.65
	1 trough of soap	.45
	1 bed and furniture	8.20
	1 bed and furniture	8.65
	1 blanket	.80
	1 bedstead and cord	.50
	20 pounds of lard	.60
	5 irons	.35
	2 pitchers	.15
	Coffee Mill	.10
	14 pounds of bacon	.77
Allen C. Winfrey	1 crock	.50
	1 man's saddle	2.75
	1 under tick	.05
	1 bee stand	.31

	1 bee stand	.31
Major Sykes	1 oven	.30
	1 ball of fat	1.05
James Denney	1 oven hooks and shovel	1.35
Jesse B. Andres	1 trough of soap	1.15
David Whitley	1 coffee mill	37.50
Thomas Mason	1 quilt	.45
	""	.51
	""	.375
	""	1.125
	""	.31
	1 clock	.75
	1 syringe	1.50
	2 pairs of half-haws	.30
Benjamin Payne	1 auger and saw	.45
Gilbert Allen	1 grindstone	.90
	1 cary plow	.55
	1 trunk	.15
	1 andiron hooking ?	.60
	1 cary plow	.90
Samuel Brent	1 pair of halfhaws	.175
	1 trough of soap	.51
Martin Everett	1 reel	.66
	49 pounds of bacon	2.475
	46 pounds of bacon	2.31
Robert Nixon	1 glass and Razor	.98
	1 wheel and cards	1.85
J.F. Reasonover	10 pounds of wool	3.00
	1 hame and traces	.90
Jonathan Denney	9 chairs	1.08
	1 tray and sifter	.25
John T. Winfree	100 pounds of cotton	2.00
Thomas Gwaltney	1.5 bushel and parl.?	1.50
James Gray	8.5 pounds of wool	2.975

Additionally there were a large number of notes on friends and family members, plus quite a list of "monies" consisting of banknotes, gold, and silver. The entire estate, including all of the above plus credits with neighborhood merchants totaled \$711.51.