

Denny Family
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The Denny family has been difficult to research, and the data presented here has not been proven, but it is the best that I have at the present time. The Denny family came to Smith Co., Tennessee prior to 1820 from Granville Co., NC. From the 1820 census records, Smith Co. we can see there were six Denny households. Three were headed by a male over the age of 45: 1. Benjamin, 2. Claibourn, and 3. John, and there were three headed by a male between the ages of 18-26: 1. William, 2. Willis, and 3. Zachariah. Just how these six household heads are related has not been determined.

We do know that John B. Denny b. before 1775, d. May 1847 in Smith Co., TN leaving a will naming his children: 1. Zachariah, b. 19 January 1794, md Catherine d. abt. 1850; 2. Willie (Wiley) b. 1794-1802 md Clary d. 1869; 3. Charles b. 1794-1802 md Martha; 4. Benjamin md Evaline Rollins d. 1844; 5. Gabrel; 6. Elizabeth b. 1809 md James M. Winfree. John also named in his will Harriett Wilkerson as granddaughter, so there might have been other children who were not mentioned in the will or who might have already died.

Wiley Denny was b. abt. 1791-1794 NC and md abt. 1817 Clary (Cary or Clara). They had 13 children named in Wiley's will dated 20 March 1854 probate April 1869 Smith County, TN: 1. Benjamin; 2. Willey; 3. Elizabeth b. Dec. 1822 md Jame Tuggle d. aft. 1900; 4. Candiss md John Bray 6 August 1850; 5. Amney (Anny); 6. Mathias; 7. Narcisca; 8. Mary b. abt. 1834 md Benjamin D. Baker, 17 December 1858; 9. Athalinda F. b. abt. 1836 md William Fletcher Agee 11 January 1859; 10. Franklin b. abt. 1838 md Sarah (Sallie) Denny, daughter of Charles and Martha; 11. Manda b. abt. 1839; 12. Brown b. abt. 1841 md Elizabeth Waggoner and was the grandfather of U.S Senator Albert Gore; 13. Samuel b. abt. 1844 md Louisa. Wiley's wife, Clary was b. abt. 1800 NC and d. 1877-1878 while crossing a field and was killed by a vicious ram.

Elizabeth (Betsey) Denny md James Tuggle abt. 1841, and they had 10 children: 1. Sarah b. 1843; 2. Nancy J. b. abt. 1844; 3. Martha Francis b. 27 December 1846; md John Bill Jenkins d. 24 September 1914 La Junta, Otero Co. CO; 4. John b. 19 June 1848 md 23 December 1870 Ann Elizabeth Jenkins; 5. William; 6. Harriet; 7. George; 8. Harris b. 9 March 1859 md Melvina Jenkins d. 22 August 1921 Hot Springs, Ark.; 9. James; and 10. Henry James Tuggle b. 25 August 1819 TN, the son of Harris B. Tuggle and Margaret (Peggy) C. Bradshaw, d. 13 August 1894 and Elizabeth (Betsey) d. after 1900.

Charles Denney – Bible: b. 27 December 1801 – d. ca. 1865