

## The Diaries of Charlotte Grove / Diary Notes / People & Families

### **SHERE**

**SHERE** - Thomas Shere (1771-1852) was born Cullompton, Devon, the son of Ambrose Shere and Jenny Salter. A well-respected member of the community, he was farm bailiff to the GROVE family before taking Upton Farm, Berwick St John, in his own right. He first married Elizabeth FUTCHER, the daughter of Robert Futcher and Mary GOODFELLOW of Fovant. After a number of still-born children, Elizabeth died in the February of 1819. Charlotte describes these tragic events in some detail, together with the obvious pain felt by Thomas during the weeks following his wife's death.

However, in 1822, Thomas married again. Deborah ANDREWS, widow of John Andrews, was born Deborah ROWDEN, another Fovant family, in 1789. Indeed, Deborah's younger sister, Dionisia, married James Futcher, younger brother of Thomas Shere's first wife, Elizabeth.

Thomas and Deborah had four children, Thomas, Dionisia, Jane and James:

1. Thomas jnr farmed at Berwick. He married Mary Ann TANNER and the couple had seven known children.
2. Dionisia Shere married another James Futcher, the nephew of Elizabeth and James above. The younger James was brother to Louisa (married Stafford Moore LANE) and Dionisia (married James Lane). A sheep farmer at Fovant, James died in Australia in 1866. His widow Dionisia and two of their five children are buried at Fovant.
3. Jane Shere married John COATE, farmer of Hammoon, Dorset.
4. James Shere married Caroline Dinah WALLIS. They had four children, all girls, two of whom died young and two who lived to a good age, but never married. The family are buried together at Berwick St John. The inscription on James' headstone reads "He Called His Own Sheep by Name".

It is believed Thomas Shere snr is buried at Ferne

