



Dr. Robert Peter (1805-1894) was a native of Cornwall, England, who migrated to the United States in 1817. He eventually made his way to Lexington in 1832 to study at medicine Transylvania University. He received his MD from the Transylvania College of Medicine in 1834. Dr. Peter served many years at Transylvania as chairman of chemistry, pharmacy, dean, and librarian of the Medical School.

During the Civil War he served as U.S. Surgeon General for the troops camped in and near Lexington. Dr. Peter was considered one of America's most respected chemists, geologists, and physicians.

Frances Paca Dallam Peter was born near Lexington in 1815. She was a descendant of the prominent Henry, Preston, and Breckinridge families of Virginia and Kentucky. Her great Uncle William Paca of Maryland was one of the signers of the Declaration of Independence.

The Peters had 11 children: Letitia (1836), William (1838), Ben (1840), Frances (1843), Johanna (1845), Robert (1847),

Sarah (1849), Arthur (1852), Hugh (1854) Alfred (1857),
and Alice (1859).