

## Garrett County Maryland's First Doctor – Oldest Paintings in the County

The oldest paintings in the Garrett County Historical Society Museum are those of Dr. William Frey and his wife, Charlotte Coddington Frey. An unknown artist traveling throughout the country painted the portraits in the 1830s.

Dr. Frey, born in 1800 in Somerfield, Pennsylvania (which is now under the Yough Lake at Rt. 40 near Addison, Pennsylvania), was the son of Samuel and Anna Frey of Somerset County. He studied medicine in Baltimore and became a prominent doctor there. In 1823, he married Charlotte Coddington of Buffalo Run, near Friendsville, Maryland. In 1834 they moved to Selbysport, Maryland (near Friendsville) where he practiced medicine until his death in 1865. He was Garrett County's first doctor.

Charlotte Coddington Frey was born in 1802 on her father's plantation near Friendsville and Selbysport – then part of Allegany County, Maryland. She was the daughter of Samuel and Mary Coddington. Charlotte and William, considered very intelligent and well educated, raised six sons and one daughter. She was 70 at the time of her death in 1872.

### Historical Society Museum, Oakland, MD



**Dr. William Frey and his wife Charlotte Coddington Frey.**

These portraits were donated in 1999 to the Garrett County Historical Society by direct descendent, Joseph L. Bradley of New Hampshire.

*The paintings were restored by Barry Winters, artist and owner of the General Art Store, 19 East Main Street, Frostburg, Maryland.*

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