

time. He died at St. Thomas, Quebec, in his 83rd year. He had often been jollied as "the man with a lid on his stomach." Professor Osler tried to secure an autopsy, but failed.

Dr. William Beaumont was born in the town of Lebanon, Conn., on the 21st day of November, 1785, and died in April, 1853, in St. Louis. He served with various U. S. regiments from 1812 to 1839, when he resigned his commission, settling down to practice in St. Louis, where he remained till the date of his death. He had an extensive and distinguished practice. He was a man of a most cheerful, but determined,



WILLIAM BEAUMONT, M.D.

disposition. The following is taken from a letter dated October 20, 1852, Domestic affairs are easy: peaceable and pleasant. Health of community good—no severe epidemic diseases prevalent—weather remarkably pleasant—business of all kinds increasing—product of the earth abundant—money plenty—railroads progressing with almost telegraphic speed. I expect to come to Plattsburg next summer all the way by rail." During his 27 years in the American army, he saw much active service, specially

in the war of 1812-1813. In March, 1853, he met with an accident—a fall while descending some steps. A few weeks later a carbuncle appeared on his neck, and proved fatal.

His book on "Experiments and Observations on the Gastric Juice and the Physiology of Digestion," was published in 1833; and a second edition, under the supervision of his cousin, Dr. Samuel Beaumont, was published in 1847. In 1838, Dr. Andrew Combe issued an edition in Scotland with numerous notes and comments.

"There had been other instances of artificial gastric fistula in man which had been made the subject of experimental study, but the case of