

seated upon his throne, with his daughter Hygeia beside him. Before him is the sacrificial table, and to him the suppliants bring their offerings. The goddess quality of Hygeia is indicated by her height as compared with the mortals before her. The face of the god cannot be seen, but in the complete figure the head is inclined and he looks at the suppliants before him with calmness and interest. He seems confident, god-like and compassionate.

Of the various centres at which the worship of Aesculapius was carried on Epidaurus was the oldest and most celebrated. It is referred to by Plato and described by Pausanias ; so it must have been in existence five hundred years before Christ. In later Greek times it fell into decay, but was restored by Antonius in the second century A.D. Various descriptions of the ruins have been made during the last century and a half, but not till very recently (20 years ago) was any systematic attempt made to study them. In 1895 an elaborate work in French (Defrasse and Lechat) was published containing a description of the ruins and a restoration of the temple based on these many years' study. The historical value of this restoration is considerable.

Epidaurus lies in the south-eastern part of Greece in Argos, about three miles from the coast, and separated from Athens by the bay of Aegina. The valley is warm, rather low and not well supplied with water—not very well situated for a health resort. Yet it remained for six hundred years the most famous of the temples of the god. The sacred grove was called the Heiron. In it were the temple, the Tholos or rotunda, and the Abaton or dormitory. Outside the grove was a large theatre. The temple was built about 375 B.C. on the site of an old and inferior structure. It sounds very much like a present day story to read of the building operations. Bids were sent out and advertised in a number of cities, and sixty contracts were given out for various parts of the work. Theodotus was architect. It took five years to finish and cost over \$25,000. The money was obtained from grateful patients who had been to Epidaurus, partly from voluntary subscriptions, and to a large extent by contributions from the city of Epi-