

and ivory statue representing Aesculapius seated on a throne. Of this there are no complete reproductions, but only bas-reliefs copies. The pose and modelling of one of these show it to be a work of art made under the best Greek influences. The figure was often reproduced in votive tablets and this type of head was found on coins and in many later statues. Thrasymedes was the author of the original statue.



FIG. 4

Some statues of the god representing him without a beard were in existence even in the earliest times, it being thought by some critics that the son of a smooth faced god should not have a beard. The Greeks jokingly called him "the bearded son of a beardless sire." Evidently this was made in Roman times, and the figure is certainly very like a Roman emperor. This statue is in the Vatican.

An interesting series of votive tablets discovered at the temple of Aesculapius, on the south side of the Acropolis at Athens, shows the character of the god and his worship. One of these, made in the best Greek times, and under good artistic influences, but by inferior artists, perhaps of a grade not much different from our gravestone cutters, represents Aesculapius