

The efforts of the Government to produce a suitable coin continued through 1784-85, and again resulted in the pattern known as the "Confederatio" piece of 1786. Then came the copper coin designed by Benjamin Franklin, and known as the Franklin or Fugio cent of 1787. Upon the centre of the obverse of this coin is a sun dial, and above this, again, a representation of the sun. On the left border is the word "Fugio," and on the opposite one the date "1787" in *exergue*, and the well-known Franklin motto, "Mind your business." On the reverse side, around the border, are thirteen links interlapped and forming an endless chain, emblematical of the thirteen original States. In the centre, in three lines, is the legend: "We are one," surrounded by a band upon which are the words "United States of America." These coins were struck and circulated in large numbers. After this followed more experiments for the silver coinage, resulting in patterns called the dime and half-dime designs of 1792. These had on the obverse a finely-executed female bust, which is supposed to have been intended for Martha Washington. Following these appeared several varieties of the 1792 Washington pieces, among them a Washington half-dollar, struck in silver and copper trial pieces from the same dies; also, a copper cent, the size of a half-cent, having a small piece of silver in the centre, together with the solid copper cent, known as the naked-bust Washington cent. All these were pattern pieces. The experiments went on, and after considerable discussion on the necessity for a permanent coinage for the new Republic, the first American Mint was established at Seventh, opposite Filbert Street, Philadelphia, in 1793. The building is still in existence as a bakery. The coinage of copper cents and half-cents was first commenced here. The first experimental coins, however, under Washington's administration, were dated 1791-2, and had on the obverse a military bust of