



CALL FOR PAPERS  
THE VICTORIANS INSTITUTE

## BY THE NUMBERS

*The Victorian Quantification of Everything; or  
From Zero to NINES in Under Two Centuries*

OCTOBER 1-3, 2010

UNIVERSITY OF VIRGINIA

Keynote lecturer: **Dan Cohen**, George Mason University; author of *Equations from God: Pure Mathematics and Victorian Faith*, 2007 and director of the Center for History and New Media (<http://chnm.gmu.edu>).

Let us count the ways in which Victorians turned, and in mounting numbers too, towards arithmetizing, computing, serializing, tallying, ordinating, enumerating - in a word, quantifying - both what they knew and the media they told it by.

- chapter and verse: seriality up and down the scale
- “for the numbers came”: prosody, measure, quantity
- a tale of two tellers: recounting and accounting
- stats, lies, and actuaries
- whatever happened to numerology?
- census and consensus
- standardization and quantification
- visual display of numerical data
- higher mathematics in the 19th century: Babbage, Boole, and beyond
- the third R: numeracy in education
- poly-math fantasy: Flatland, Wonderland, and...
- ratio redux, or Pythagoras on Piccadilly, Leonardo in London, Victorian Vitruvius: proportion in Victorian music, art, and architecture

Papers on these and innumerable other aspects of the conference theme will be discussed in the warm collegiality of the Victorians Institute on what we suppose with moderate to high probability will prove a balmy Piedmont weekend at the University of Virginia.

**PLEASE SUBMIT 1-2 PAGE PROPOSALS to [Victorians.Institute@gmail.com](mailto:Victorians.Institute@gmail.com)  
by MARCH 31, 2010.**



More information available at the conference website: <http://www.nines.org/VIC2010>

