

1070-01-125      **David Lindsay Roberts\*** (robertsd1@aol.com). *Simon Newcomb as a Nineteenth Century Mathematics Educator.*

Simon Newcomb was born in 1835 when the structures and interconnections of many educational institutions were still very much in flux in the United States. By 1909, when he died, most of the key institutions were solidifying into close to the forms they retain to the present day. Newcomb followed his mentor Benjamin Peirce into mathematical astronomy, with most of his professional activity conducted for the Nautical Almanac office in Washington, D.C. Newcomb was only a part-time teacher, on the side, but since the institution where he did most of this teaching was the newly founded Johns Hopkins University in Baltimore, of central importance for the history of higher education in the United States, it is well worth giving attention to this facet of his career. Moreover, at the same time that he was teaching at Hopkins, Newcomb was involving himself in the secondary schools, through writing textbooks and journal articles, and serving as chairman of the mathematics subcommittee of the celebrated Committee of Ten of 1892. Examining Newcomb's career thus illuminates the evolution of mathematics in a wide range of late nineteenth century educational institutions. (Received February 05, 2011)