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**Scott B. Guthery\*** ([sbg@acw.com](mailto:sbg@acw.com)), Scott B. Guthery, 2400 Beacon #208, Chestnut Hill, MA 02467. *Mathematical Tables in Nineteenth Century America*.

The nature of the mathematical tables used in a scientific, engineering or commercial enterprise is one indicator of the degree to which quantitative methods are used as well as the maturity of those methods. In this talk we survey the mathematical tables in the catalogs of some early American libraries, with an emphasis on the catalogs of the Boston Athenæum, to characterize the use of quantitative methods in various endeavors in nineteenth century America. While the scientists, engineers and businessmen of the young nation were cognizant of computational developments in Europe, they were not reluctant to strike out on their own. Defining an American identity in science, engineering, and commerce was just as much a part of the spirit of the time as defining an American identity in art and literature. Stories include connection of Gaspard de Prony with a New England textile mill and the construction of the first table of prime factors in America by a Baltimore lawyer. (Received November 30, 2012)