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- Type:** Article in Journal
- Author:** Bellucci, Francesco
- Title:** Neat, Swine, Sheep, and Deer: Mill and Peirce on Natural Kinds
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- Keywords:** Natural Kind, Natural Class, Information, Symbol
- Abstract:** In the earliest phase of his logical investigations (1865–1870), Peirce adopts Mill's doctrine of real Kinds as discussed in the *System of Logic* and adapts it to the logical conceptions he was then developing. In Peirce's definition of natural class, a crucial role is played by the notion of information: a natural class is a class of which some non-analytical proposition is true. In Peirce's hands, Mill's distinction between connotative and non-connotative terms becomes a distinction between symbolic and informative and pseudo-symbolic and non-informative forms of representation. A symbol is for Peirce a representation which has information. Just as for Mill all names of Kind connote their being such, so for Peirce all symbols profess to correspond to a natural class.
- Language:** English