

Record in the Commens Bibliography. Retrieved from <http://www.commens.org/bibliography/manuscript/peirce-charles-s-1872-chapter-iv-reality-ms-r-372-ms-w-204>, 29.05.2026.

---

**Type:** Manuscript

**Author:** Peirce, Charles Sanders

**Title:** Chapter IV. Of Reality

**Manuscript Id:** MS [R] 372; MS [W] 204

**Id:**

**Year:** 1872

**Abstract /** A. MS., n.p., [c.1873], 14 pp.

**Description:** Investigation involves both observation and reasoning. Reasoning as beginning with the most obvious premises and leading ultimately to one conclusion. Reality must be connected with this chain of reasoning at one extremity or the other. Nominalistic and realistic views of reality. The scientific presentation of the doctrines of logic requires the identity of the object of true knowledge with reality. The existence of things (as studied by physicists) depends upon their manifestability. Extending this conception to all real existence leads to an idealistic theory of metaphysics, once it is clearly understood that observation and reasoning are perpetually leading us toward certain final opinions whose objects may be said to have real existence.

**Language:** English