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http://www.commens.org/bibliography/manuscript/peirce-charles-s-1904-reasons-conscience-practical-treatise-theory-discovery, 21.11.2025.

Type: Manuscript

**Author:** Peirce, Charles Sanders

Title: Reason's Conscience: A Practical Treatise on the Theory of Discovery; Wherein

logic is conceived as Semeiotic

Manuscript MS [R] 693

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**Year:** 1904

**Abstract / From the Robin Catalogue:** 

**Description:** A. MS., six notebooks, n.p., n.d., pp. 2-442 (even numbers mostly, but text is consecutive), including a rewritten section.

Notebook I (pp. 2-80). Purpose of book: improving the reasoning power of students. Pedagogy. Reason and instinct. Interrelations of the branches of science; ladder of the sciences, beginning with the science of discovery and ending with practical science. Notebook II (pp. 82-164). Continues the discussion of the branches of science begun in Notebook I, concentrating on phenomenology, normative science, metaphysics, general physics, and general psychology. The dependence of logic upon the other normative sciences and upon phenomenology and mathematics. The relationship of logic to metaphysics and to psychology. Sound reasoning leads to the maximum of expectation and the minimum of surprise. Notebook III (pp. 166-248). Continues the discussion of sound reasoning specifically and the relationship between logic and psychology generally. The laws of thought. Language and linguistics. The ontological argument. Mathematics and logic; the teaching of mathematics; instructions for understanding Euclidean geometry. Note-book IV (pp. 250-322). Continuation of the instructions for understanding Euclid. Discussion of existential graphs, with a note by CSP that this discussion was rewritten in Notebook V. Notebook V (pp. 278-370). The nature of mathematics. The manner in which two branches of science may support each other. CSP's speculations on the possibility of a phenomenology of esthetics, an esthetics of ethics, an ethics of logic, etc. Notebook VI (pp. 372-442). Continuation of the discussion of the usefulness of one science to another. The descriptive and classificatory sciences. The problem of knowledge: perceptual knowledge; individuality and classes; unity, singularity, and individuality distinguished; expectations.

Published (parts): NEM 4:185-215.

| Language: | English |
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