Term: Critical Ethics

Quote: If we are to admit only two normative sciences, the first of these which for convenience we call ethics, relating to control of the existent, or say to actualization, and the second to thought, that first ethics must have two sections, the first one on the ultimate aim, or sumnum bonum, which will be the same as esthetics, if esthetics is not to be confined to sensuous beauty, but is to relate to the admirable and adorable generally while the other, which may be called critical ethics treats of the conditions of conformity to the ideal.

[—]

Critical ethics will be the science of the general conditions of control; and it is easy to see that it comes chiefly to the doctrine of self-control.


References: MS [R] 1334:38, 40

Date of Quote: 1905

URL: http://www.commens.org/dictionary/entry/quote-adirondack-summer-school-lectures-4