Second Intentional Logic

The scholastic doctors used to talk of first intentions and second intentions. First intentions were conceptions obtained by generalizing ordinary experiences. Second intentions were conceptions obtained by generalizing conceptions themselves considered as objects of logical comparison. Now an abstract notion, that is, the name of a quality, is the first fruit of second-intentional thought. I have therefore called that branch of formal logic which takes account of this operation, and expresses it, Second Intentional Logic.


References: MS [R] 418:359-60

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