Term: Second Intention

Quote: The scholastic doctors used to talk of first intentions and second intentions. First intentions were conceptions obtained by generalizing ordinary experiences. Second intentions were conception[s] 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.


References: MS [R] 418:359-60

Date of Quote: 1893

URL: http://www.commens.org/dictionary/entry/quote-book-ii-division-i-part-2-logic-relatives-chapter-xii-algebra-relatives-4