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 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.
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