'Firstness' (pub. 08.01.13-20:41). Quote in M. Bergman & S. Paavola (Eds.), *The Commens Dictionary: Peirce's Terms in His Own Words. New Edition*. Retrieved from http://www.commens.org/dictionary/entry/quote-csps-lowell-lectures-1903-2nd-part-3rd-draught-lecture-iii.

Term: Firstness

Quote: A Firstness is exemplified in every quality of a total feeling. It is perfectly simple

and without parts; and everything has its quality. Thus the tragedy of King Lear has its Firstness, its flavor *sui generis*. That wherein all such qualities agree is universal Firstness, the very being of Firstness. The word *possibility* fits it, except that possibility implies a relation to what exists, while universal Firstness is the mode of being of itself. That is why a new word was required for it.

Otherwise, "possibility" would have answered the purpose.

Source: Peirce, C. S. (1903). CSP's Lowell Lectures of 1903. 2nd Part of 3rd Draught of

Lecture III. MS [R] 465.

References: CP 1.531

Date of 1903

Quote:

URL: http://www.commens.org/dictionary/entry/quote-csps-lowell-lectures-1903-2nd-

part-3rd-draught-lecture-iii