Term: Perceptual Judgment

Quote: Even after the percept is formed there is an operation which seems to me to be quite uncontrollable. It is that of judging what it is that the person perceives. A judgment is an act of formation of a mental proposition combined with an adoption of it or act of assent to it. A percept on the other hand is an image or moving picture or other exhibition. The perceptual judgment, that is, the first judgment of a person as to what is before his senses, bears no more resemblance to the percept than the figure I am going to draw is like a man.

I do not see that it is possible to exert any control over that operation or to subject it to criticism.


References: EP 2:191; CP 5.115

Date of Quote: 1903

URL: http://www.commens.org/dictionary/entry/quote-harvard-lectures-pragmatism-lecture-iv-seven-systems-metaphysics-1