Term: Doubt

Quote: ... the action of thought is excited by the irritation of doubt, and ceases when belief is attained; so that the production of belief is the sole function of thought. All these words, however, are too strong for my purpose. It is as if I had described the phenomena as they appear under a mental microscope. Doubt and Belief, as the words are commonly employed, relate to religious or other grave discussions. But here I use them to designate the starting of any question, no matter how small or how great, and the resolution of it.


References: CP 5.394

Date of Quote: 1878

URL: http://www.commens.org/dictionary/entry/quote-how-make-our-ideas-clear-1