

'Phaneron' (pub. 06.02.13-18:05). 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-letters-william-james-2>.

---

**Term:** Phaneron

**Quote:** The *phaneron*, as I now call it, the sum total all of the contents of human consciousness, which I believe is about what you (borrowing the term of Avenarius) call *pure experience*, - but I do not admit the point of view of Avenarius to be correct or to be consonant to any pragmatism, nor to yours, in particular, and therefore I do not like that phrase. For me *experience* is what life has forced upon us, - a vague idea no doubt. But my *phaneron* is not limited to what is *forced* upon us; it also embraces all that we most capriciously conjure up, not *objects* only but all modes of contents of cognitional consciousness.

**Source:** Peirce, C. S. (1897-1909). *Letters to William James*. L [R] 224.

**References:** NEM 3:834

**Date of** 1905

**Quote:**

**URL:** <http://www.commens.org/dictionary/entry/quote-letters-william-james-2>