'Symbol' (pub. 05.05.13-11:44). 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-logical-tracts-no-2-existential-graphs-eulers-diagrams-and-logical-algebra-8.

Term:	Symbol
Quote:	A *symbol* is a representamen whose special significance or fitness to represent just what it does represent lies in nothing but the very fact of there being a habit, disposition, or other effective general rule that it will be so interpreted. Take, for example, the word "*man.*" These three letters are not in the least like a man; nor is the sound with which they are associated. Neither is the word existentially connected with any man as an index. It cannot be so, since the word is not an existence at all. The word does not consist of three films of ink. If the word "man" occurs hundreds of times in a book of which myriads of copies are printed, all those millions of triplets of patches of ink are embodiments of one and the same word. I call each of those embodiments a *replica* of the symbol. This shows that the word is not a thing. What is its nature? It consists in the really working general rule that three such patches seen by a person who knows English will effect his conduct and thoughts according to a rule.
Source:	Peirce, C. S. (1903 [c.]). *Logical Tracts. No. 2. On Existential Graphs, Euler's Diagrams, and Logical Algebra*. MS [R] 492.
References:	CP 4.447
Date of Quote:	1903 [c.]
URL:	http://www.commens.org/dictionary/entry/quote-logical-tracts-no-2-existential-graphs-eulers-diagrams-and-logical-algebra-8