Term: Science of Review
Quote: We are now in condition to see that a sub-branch of science has been omitted. It is a department perfectly well recognized. It belongs by virtue of its purpose to the branch of theoretical science; and yet it varies that purpose. It is the subject of Humboldt’s *Cosmos*, called by Comte *philosophie positive*, by Herbert Spencer, *synthetic philosophy*. Its object is to sum up the results of all the theoretical sciences and to study them as forming one system. I am somewhat inclined to call it *popular science*; but Spencer’s adjective *synthetic* is better. It may be still more explicit to distinguish it as *reviewing science* from the first sub-branch of *advancing science*.


References: MS [R] 427:77

Date of Quote: 1902

Editorial Annotations: This quote is a variant of a passage published under the term Retrospective Science in the Commens Dictionary

URL: http://www.commens.org/dictionary/entry/quote-minute-logic-chapter-ii-prelogical-notions-section-i-classification-science-12