A real thing is something whose characters are independent of how any representation represents it to be.

Independent, therefore, of how any number of men think it to be. Idealism does not falsify definition.

[—]

The Real thing is the ultimate opinion about it.

About it that is about the ultimate opinion, but not involving the reflection that the opinion is itself that ultimate one and is the real thing. Indeed this opinion is in one sense an ideal inasmuch as more experience and reasoning may always be had.

**Source:** Peirce, C. S. (1870). *Notes for Lectures on Logic to be given 1st term 1870-71.* MS [R] 587; MS [W] 171.

**References:** W 2:439-40

**Date of Quote:** 1870