Term: Thing-in-itself

Quote: An external object is anything that is not affected by any cognitions, whether about it or not, of the man to whom it is external. Exaggerate this, in the usual philosopher fashion, and you have the conception of what is not affected by any cognitions at all. Take the converse of this definition and you have the notion of what does not affect cognition, and in this indirect manner you get a hypostatically abstract notion of what the Ding an sich would be.


References: CP 5.525

Date of Quote: 1905 [c.]

URL: http://www.commens.org/dictionary/entry/quote-pragmatism-prag-r-5