Term: Inference
Quote: Reasoning is the process by which we attain a belief which we regard as the result of previous knowledge. [—]
Again, a given belief may be regarded as the effect of another given belief, without our seeming to see clearly why or how. Such a process is usually called an inference; but it ought not to be called a rational inference, or reasoning. A blind force constrains us. [—]
The word illation signifies a process of inference. Reasoning, in general, is sometimes called ratiocination. Argumentation is the expression of a reasoning.

References: EP 2:11-12
Date of Quote: 1895
URL: http://www.commens.org/dictionary/entry/quote-short-logic-2