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An index is a sign which would, at once, lose the character which makes it a sign if its object were removed, but would not lose that character if there were no interpretant. Such, for instance, is a piece of mould with a bullet-hole in it as sign of a shot; for without the shot there would have been no hole; but there is a hole there, whether anybody has the sense to attribute it to a shot or not.


References: DPP2, 527; CP 2.304

Date of Quote: 1902

URL: http://www.commens.org/dictionary/entry/quote-sign-0