Term: Index
Quote: 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