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Author: Parmentier, Richard J.
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Abstract: This paper explores Peirce's method of semiotic exemplification by a careful examination of his thinking about the relationship between interpretation and replication, the subdivision of signs into genuine and degenerate classes, and the role of logically necessary systems of representation in guiding the growth of scientific knowledge. Examples of Peirce's forays into topics usually treated within the social sciences and humanities demonstrate both the imperialism and the delimitation of his semiotic method.
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