

Ens Rationis

1903 | C.S.P.'s Lowell Lectures of 1903 2nd Draught of 3rd Lecture | MS [R] 462:34-36

An *ens rationis* is something whose being consists in the possibility of something being true about something else.

1903 | Lowell Lectures. 1903. Lecture 5. Vol. 1 | MS [R] 469:8

An *ens rationis* may be defined as a subject whose being consists in a Secondness, or fact, concerning something else. Its being is thus of the nature of Thirdness, or thought. Any abstraction, such as Truth or Justice, is an *ens rationis*. That does not prevent Truth and Justice from being real powers in the world without any figure of speech.