Qualisign

1903 | Syllabus: Nomenclature and Division of Triadic Relations, as far as they are determined | EP 2:294

... a Qualisign is any quality in so far as it is a sign. Since a quality is whatever it is positively in itself, a quality can only denote an object by virtue of some common ingredient or similarity; so that a Qualisign is necessarily an Icon. Further, since a quality is a mere logical possibility, it can only be interpreted as a sign of essence, that is, as a Rheme.

Test comment

1903 | Syllabus: Nomenclature and Division of Triadic Relations, as far as they are determined | EP 2:291

A *Qualisign* is a quality which is a Sign. It cannot actually act as a sign until it is embodied; but the embodiment has nothing to do with its character as a sign.

1903 [c.] | P of L | MS [R] 800:4

...signs are divisible, first, according to their modes of being, as objects; secondly, according to the modes of their references to their objects; thirdly, according to the modes of their references to their interpretants. In the first way of dividing them, signs are either *qualisigns*, or signs that are abstract qualities (in a wide sense), or *suisigns*, signs that are essentially existent as individual objects or events, or *legisigns*, signs that [are] general types, laws, or habits.

1904 | Letters to Lady Welby | SS 32

As it is in itself, a sign is either of the nature of an appearance, when I call it a *qualisign*; or secondly, it is an individual object or event, when I call it a *sinsign* (the syllable sin being the first sillable *[sic]* of *semel*, *simul*, *singular*, etc); or thirdly, it is of the nature of a general type, when I call it a *legisign*.

1904 | Letters to Lady Welby | SS 32-33

The qualisign [...] has no identity. It is the mere quality of an appearance & is not exactly the same throughout a second. Instead of identity, it has *great similarity*, & cannot differ much without being called quite another qualisign.

1905 | Letters to Mario Calderoni | MS [R] L67:36

A sign in itself may be an indefinite possibility, when I term as a *Qualisign*, or it may be an existent thing or event, when I term it a *Sinsign* (*sin-* is the *sim-* of *simul*, *simplex*, etc.), or it may be a general type, when I call it a *Legisign*.

Parenthetical comment enclosed in square brackets in the original manuscript

1905 [c.] | The Basis of Pragmaticism | MS [R] 284:59

A *qualisign* is an aspect, impression, or other priman significant regardless of its parts or of anything else simply because it involves the very character signified.