

Synoptic View?

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"Many a man, when I tell him that I have been on to a mountain, asks if I took a glass with me. No doubt, I could have seen further with a glass, and particular objects more distinctly--could have counted more meeting-houses; but this has nothing to do with the particular beauty and grandeur that an elevated position affords. It was not to see a few particular objects, as if they were near at hand, as I had been accustomed to see them, that I ascended the mountain, but to see an infinite variety far and near in their relation to each other, thus reduced to a single picture."

--Henry David Thoreau, *Journal*, Oct. 20 1852

? This entry is titled Synoptic View, and will be a good place for quotations on the Epicurean practice of taking the subject as a whole first, and filling in the details later.