

Stuart Mill as a reader of the Bentham's theory of fictions

In the following of Locke, Bentham was the author of a "theory of language", which is the matter of the whole VIIIth volume of *The complete Works* edited by Bowring. This theory is strongly fastened with the theory of fictions. When Stuart Mill wrote about Bentham in the famous "articles", he did not firmly bring to view the labour of the founder of utilitarianism, neither on fiction nor upon language. In the chapters and books of *A System of logic*, treating of words and fallacies, Stuart Mill evidently thinks to Bentham's work ; but his logic of induction leads him far from Bentham's considerations. Of course, fictions and fallacies remain in the core of the system ; however, Stuart Mill does not define them in the same way. These changes will be analysed. Besides, the conception of the meaning and import of words and propositions is not the same in both works. The consequences of the main differences between both systems will be examined, ethically and politically. So, the purpose is to settle a confrontation between two great utilitarians' strategies about language and logic.

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