

Fernando Pessoa

When Parmenides says that Being is eternal...

When Parmenides says that Being is eternal on the strength of the assertion that Being cannot become not-Being, he imports into the argument the secret notion of time, of becoming, at least. But becoming is not being — it is indeed opposed to it.

The true argument runs thus: Being is not temporal because it cannot be duration. Being is not eternal: it cannot be time. Being is being and no more.

1906?

Textos Filosóficos . Vol. I. Fernando Pessoa. (Estabelecidos e prefaciados por António de Pina Coelho.) Lisboa: Ática, 1968 (imp. 1993): 66.