Term: Induction

Quote: ... So that induction is the inference of the rule from the case and result. But this is not the only way of inverting a deductive syllogism so as to produce a synthetic inference. [—] We have, then—

DEDUCTION.

Rule.—All the beans from this bag are white.
Case.—These beans are from this bag.
∴.Result.—These beans are white.

INDUCTION.

Case.—These beans are from this bag.
Result.—These beans are white.
∴.Rule.—All the beans from this bag are white

HYPOTHESIS.

Rule.—All the beans from this bag are white.
Result.—These beans are white.
∴.Case.—These beans are from this bag.

We, accordingly, classify all inference as follows:

Inference.

|——————————|
|Deductive or Analytic.  Synthetic.
  |—————|
  |Induction.  Hypothesis.

Induction is where we generalize from a number of cases of which something is true, and infer that the same thing is true of a whole class. Or, where we find a certain thing to be true of a certain proportion of cases and infer that it is true of the same proportion of the whole class.


References: CP 2.623

Date of Quote: 1878

URL: http://www.commens.org/dictionary/entry/quote-deduction-induction-and-hypothesis-3