

'Abduction' (pub. 19.12.12-20:02). Quote in M. Bergman & S. Paavola (Eds.), *The Commens Dictionary: Peirce's Terms in His Own Words. New Edition*. Retrieved from <http://www.commens.org/dictionary/entry/quote-humes-argument-against-miracles-and-idea-natural-law-hume>.

Term: Abduction

Quote: *Inference* is any act of deliberate assent, in any degree, however slight, which a man accords to a proposition because he thinks that assent warranted by his already accorded assent to another proposition or propositions, called the premises. It is one act of inference to adopt a hypothesis on probation. Such an act may be called an *abduction*. It is an act of the same kind, when a hypothesis is merely suggested as possible worth consideration. For even then some degree of favor is extended to it.

Source: Peirce, C. S. (1901). *Hume's Argument against Miracles, and the Idea of Natural Law (Hume)*. MS [R] 873.

References: MS [R] 873:3 (var.); HP 2:912

Date of 1901

Quote:

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