An Abduction is a method of forming a general prediction without any positive assurance that it will succeed either in the special case or usually, its justification being that it is the only possible hope of regulating our future conduct rationally, and that Induction from past experience gives us strong encouragement to hope that it will be successful in the future.

Peirce, C. S. (1903). *Syllabus: Nomenclature and Division of Triadic Relations, as far as they are determined*. MS [R] 540.

References: EP 2:299

Date of Quote: 1903

URL: http://www.commens.org/dictionary/entry/quote-syllabus-nomenclature-and-division-triadic-relations-far-they-are-determined