

MODEL.—The ocean is *deep, dark, and stormy*.

Make sentences telling two qualities of each of the following—expressing the qualities by *predicate adjectives* :

Glass—Trees—Roses—Camel—Canary—Dog—Wolf—Horse—Ship—Queen—Prince.

Change papers, and write letters of criticism.

## XVII. POSSESSIVE FORM OF NOUNS.

1. We are now to learn about a change in the form of nouns which gives them the power of adjectives.

2. Compare—

*This* coat. . . . . with . . . *John's* coat.

The *small* shoes. . . with . . . *ladies'* shoes.

A *fine* house. . . . with . . . *father's* house.

This  
Small } are adjectives.  
Fine }

3. Now what shall we say about “John’s” and “ladies,” and “father’s”? These words seem to have the same use as “this” and “small” and “fine,” for each of these words limits the noun with which it is joined. The words “John’s,” “ladies’,” “father’s” are generally called nouns in the *possessive case*.

4. DEFINITION.—The possessive case is that form of a noun (or pronoun) which shows that something belongs to the person or thing for which it stands.

5. RULE I.—The possessive singular of a noun is formed by adding the apostrophe and s(’s) to the subject-form of the noun. Thus, subject-form, *boy* : possessive case, *boy’s* ; *man* : possessive case, *man’s* ; *horse* : possessive case, *horse’s*.