**Who am I?**

I am your constant companion.

I am your greatest helper or heaviest burden.
I will push you onward or drag you down to failure.

I am completely at your command.
Half the things you do you might as well turn over to me

and I will be able to do them quickly and correctly.

I am easily managed - you must merely be firm with me.

Show me exactly how you want something done

 and after a few lessons I will do it automatically.

I am the servant of all great individuals and,

Alas, of all failures as well.

Those who are great, I have made great.

Those who are failures, I have made failures.

I am not a machine, though I work
with all the precision of a machine plus
the intelligence of a human.

 You may run me for profit or run me for ruin –

 It makes no difference to me.

Take me, train me, be firm with me,
and I will place the world at your feet.

Be easy with me and I will destroy you.

Who am I?