

# The Set of the Sails

Life is filled with many questions, including:

- What do I want to be when I grow up?
- Whom shall I marry; what kind of person should he or she be?
- What kind of career provides personal satisfaction?
- What drives me to succeed?

These, and many others, must be considered as we make choices that govern our years upon the earth. And sometimes we marvel, or wonder, at the decisions that people select, including why some appear to be successful and others do not.

Poet Ella Wheeler Wilcox addressed this subject:

*One ship drives east, and another west  
With the self-same winds that blow;  
'Tis the set of the sails  
And not the gales,  
That decides the way we go.  
Like the winds of the sea are the ways of fate,  
As they voyage along through life;  
'Tis the will of the soul  
That decides its goal,  
And not the calm or the strife.*

And as French writer Victor Hugo put it: *People do not lack strength; they lack will.*

– Beecher Hunter

