

## I am the President of the Seminary

I am the President of the Seminary  
*And a right good president too*  
I'm very very good  
And be it understood  
My faculty is very good too  
*His faculty is very good too.*

I started out to preach. Then decided I should teach  
And it's no hyperbole  
That my lecture's always strong but it never goes too long  
And I never lose humility.  
*What, never? No. never!*  
*What never? Hardly ever?*

*He's the model of humility.*  
*So give one cheer, two cheers, now three*  
*For the president of the seminary.*

I do my best to satisfy you all  
*And we try to act content*  
You're exceedingly polite, and of course I'm always right  
There's no point in argument  
*We're exceedingly polite*  
*And he thinks he's always right*  
*There's no point in argument.*

Bad language or abuse I never, never use,  
Whatever the emergency  
Though damn I may occasionally say (gasp)  
It's never used but theologically  
*What never? No never!*  
*What never? Hardly ever.*

*Damn is used theologically.*  
*So give one cheer, two cheer now three*  
*For the president of the seminary.*

## I am the Dean of Faculty

I am the dean of faculty  
I promote student piety  
This virtue our clergy proudly chants

*For we want only clergy of significance  
For we want only clergy of significance  
Only clergy of significance.*

I am very dignified  
Never once would I backslide  
I can quell heresy with a single glance

*We will all become scholars of significance  
We will all become scholars of significance  
All become scholars of great significance.*

When controversies do erupt  
I generally hush them up  
I avoid all appearance of dissidence

*And so do the teachers who are Protestants  
And so do the teachers who are Protestants*

*The teachers and the students as we know them to be prudent Protestants.*

## When We were so Bad

When I was young I thought it a crime  
That I had to go to church—what a waste of time  
I fought with mom and wouldn't sit still  
Every hymn and sermon I had my fill  
*Every hymn and sermon she had her fill*  
I disliked church so thoroughly  
That now I am a student of theology.  
*She disliked church so thoroughly*  
*That now she is a student of theology.*

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When I was young I hated Sunday School  
During Bible stories I played the fool  
I suffered through class - it was torment  
Could hell be any greater than my discontent?  
*Could hell be any greater than his discontent?*  
I suffered through church so religiously  
That now I am here to get my Christian Ed degree  
*He suffered through church so religiously*  
*That now he is here to get his Christian Ed degree*

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When I went to church and to Bible School  
I often was the subject of some ridicule  
I sank Noah's ark made of popsicle sticks  
I was the acolyte who dropped the candlesticks.  
*She was the acolyte who dropped the candlesticks.*  
I was teased about it so mercilessly  
That now I plan to study for the ministry.  
*She was teased about it so mercilessly*

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*That now she plans to study for the ministry.*

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Now church folk all, whoever you may be  
If you want to join the ministry  
If you mis-behave in Sunday School  
And you never get proficient in the Golden Rule

Stick close to your guns, act shamelessly  
And you'll all get admitted to the seminary.

*Stick close to your guns, act shamelessly  
And you'll all get admitted to the seminary.*

### I Am the Very Model of a Modern Seminarian

I am the very model of a modern seminarian  
Study- ing so hard to be a perfect Presbyterian  
I know Old Testament stories, some of which are allegorical  
From Genesis to Malachi in order categorical  
I can list the kings of Israel and I do it chron-o-logical  
I answer all their questions using language the-o-logical  
I'm-an open-minded person –trying hard to hear another's views  
And taking homiletics so that I can preach and fill the pews.

*He's taking homiletics so that he can preach and fill the pews.  
He's taking homiletics so that he can preach and fill the pews.  
He's taking homiletics so that he can preach and fill the pews.*

I'm plowing through the Hebrew - Greek, and so far things are going swell.  
And whether I forget them both is something only time will tell.  
In short, I'm trying hard to be the perfect seminarian  
And be the very model of a modern Presbyterian.

*And be the very model of a modern Presbyterian  
And be the very model of a modern Presbyterian.*

I've made an "A" in every class related to New Testament  
What Revelations actually means has caused me great bewilderment  
The [period] after Pent-a-cost I've learned to know as [Ordinary] Time  
My interest in the Book of Order really is quite gen-u-ine.  
I understand reformed belief and see we are reforming still  
And I realize it's not too smart to spout disorder as "God's will!"  
I snack through study hall describing fragments of the Dead Sea Scrolls  
And I recognize before I die, I'll be stuffed with green bean casseroles

*And recognize before he dies he'll be stuffed with green bean casseroles  
And recognize before he dies he'll be stuffed with green bean casseroles  
And recognize before he dies he'll be stuffed with green bean casseroles*

I will learn to speak of profound things with parishioners hysterical  
And learn to deal with raising funds, and tithes and things numerical.  
I'm able to explain to you why we're predes-tin-arian  
For I am the very model of a modern Seminarian

*For He is the very model of a modern Seminarian  
For He is the very model of a modern Seminarian  
For He is the very model of a modern Seminarian*

## Three Gutsy Maids from School

Three Gutsy Maids to school are we  
Students of Divinity  
Planning to enter the ministry  
Three gutsy maids to school!

Being here is not always fun  
We'll work so hard before we're done  
Prejudice must be overcome  
Three gutsy maids to school

Three gutsy maids we voluntary  
Came to a first rate seminary  
Don't you think we're visionary?  
Three gutsy maids to school  
Three gutsy maids to school

Three gutsy maids who are not dumb  
We just love the curriculum  
Except for the Greek which is not too fun  
Three gutsy maids to school

For three gutsy maids it may be slow  
Before they change the status quo  
Tradition we will overthrow  
Three gutsy maids to school

Three gutsy maids to school

Three gutsy maids who all are feeling  
It shouldn't send the whole church reeling  
When we break the stained glass ceiling.  
Three gutsy maids to school  
Three gutsy maids to school.

## Go Forth

Go forth and stick to you guns

All *your guns*

Go out then and master

The skills of a pastor

I know you will want to become

All *come-come*

And always behave soberly

Do not to temptation succumb

All *cumb-cumb*

You can baptize and marry

And dead people you bury

When ministers you have become

All *come-come*

When you graduate seminary

Study hard and a pastor become

*Come-come*

To temptation you must not succumb

*Cumb-cumb*

Your teachers are many

They'll criticize plenty

They'll criticize plenty

But they want you to get your degree

They all want you to get your degree

They want you to get, to get your degree

They want you to get, to get your degree

Your degree, your degree, your degree, your degree

What though hard work will come too soon

And years and years of study loom  
Your years with us will pass away  
You'll reach your graduation day

Then to this class  
Our joy we raise  
With loving song  
And grateful praise  
Then to this class  
Our joy we raise  
With loving song  
And grateful praise  
With loving song  
And grateful praise  
With loving song

With joyous shout, with joyous shout and ringing cheer  
Inaugurate, inaugurate this new school year  
    With joyous shout  
    And ringing cheer  
With joyous, joyous shout  
With loving song and grateful praise  
With loving song and grateful praise  
With song and praise.

We sail the ocean blue

We are Calvinist through and through  
We approach things resolutely  
We are sober folks, it's true  
And attentive to our duty

Since we got our degree at the seminary  
We've worked steadily each day  
As clergy we backslide but on faith we've relied  
And we still do find time to pray

Oh joy! Oh joy!  
We're in the ministry  
Oh joy! Oh joy!  
You should see our salary  
And we work on our sermon, on our sermon each day

We are Calvinist through and through  
We approach things resolutely  
We are sober folks, it's true  
And attentive to our duty  
We nitpick things minutely  
We're committed absolutely  
We're devoted and we're true  
Presbyterians through and through

## Preachers Lament

Calvin felt the clergy should seek full employment (full employment)  
For the devil works if we have idle hands (idle hands)  
And if the preacher does find time to seek enjoyment (have enjoyment)  
Someone dies and screws up our vacation plans.

Our own desires we carefully will smother (he will smother)  
For there's always one more duty to be done (to be done)  
Ah, take one consideration with another (with another)  
A preacher's lot is not a happy one.

Ahhh  
When there're ministerial duties to be done, to be done,  
A preacher's lot is not a happy one.

When the dedicated preacher's not a-preaching (not a-preaching)  
When the pastor isn't visiting the sick (-ting the sick)  
Then there must be a Disciple's Class she's teaching (that he's teaching)  
And we can't complain-- it isn't politic.

When the preacher's finished balancing the budget (-ing the budget)  
When the battle with the Session has been won (has been won)  
We can't relax; we know we will begrudge it (begrudge it)  
A preacher's lot is not a happy one.

Ahhhh  
When there're ministerial duty's to be done, to be done  
A preacher's lot is not a happy one.

## I've Got a Little List

As someday it may happen that I just might get revenge  
I've got a little list—I've got a little list  
Of special church offenders who make me want to cringe  
And who never would be missed—that never would be missed.  
There're the members so eccentric that they ought to be confined  
Or the one who took a major job then suddenly resigned.  
There're the babies who scream only when I'm ready to baptize  
Or the member in every meeting who must over-analyze  
And that soul who never likes to change—the firm traditionalist  
They'd none of them be missed; they'd none of them be missed.

*Chorus: She's got 'em on the list; she's got 'em on the list*

There're the ones who make a stink if in their pew you stay  
And the too loud organist—I've got him on the list.  
And the one who shows up Family night but never called to say.  
They never would be missed—they never would be missed  
There's the idiot who praises with enthusiastic glee  
The church he used to go to—it's much better, don't you see?  
There're the ones who claim they love to sing but only hymns they know  
And the one who promises her help but then she fails to show.  
And the one who always disagrees—that former Methodist  
I don't think she'd be missed—I'm sure she not be missed.

*Chorus: She's got her on the list....*

There's the one who can't afford to pledge but drives a new jaguar  
The non-philanthropist—I've got him on the list  
And the one whose own theology is really quite bizarre  
They'd none of them be missed; they'd none of them be missed.  
And the one whose Thanksgiving prayer goes on and on too long  
And the guy in my Disciple's class who is sure he's never wrong.  
There's the usher who screws up collections on the outer aisle.  
And those who pick apart my sermon and criticize my style.  
The bickering committee heads who cannot co-exist.  
They'd none of them be missed—they'd none of them be missed

I am the very model of a proper Presbyterian (reprise)

I am the very model of a proper Presbyterian  
More liberal than a Baptist but not quite a Unitarian  
I don't amass material goods and do not frequent any bars  
I give to worthy causes and I never drive a fancy car.  
I always meet, and kindly greet, each and every single visitor  
You never know which one will show up as a big contributor  
I've learned to deal with those who act a-bit sanctimonious  
And elders who at session meetings let things get acrimonious.

*And elders who at session meetings let things get acrimonious.  
And elders who at session meetings let things get acrimonious.  
And elders who at session meetings let things get acrimonious.*

I've been at Brownson many years - my devotion's axiomatic  
So much so that my family thinks I've earned a looong sabbatical  
I've grown a lot in forty years—no innocent seminarian  
No – I'm trying to be the model of a proper Presbyterian.

*He's trying hard to be the model of a proper Presbyterian*

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## Nevermind the Why and Wherefore

Nevermind the why and wherefore  
Or yet even what we're here for  
You can doubt the great Almighty  
Throw out what you can't explain  
You can say you must be doubt-free  
But your questions still remain

Sometimes issues aren't resolved yet  
Leaving us still filled with doubt  
Take the leap as God will solve it  
That's what faith is all about.

Yes we know your question's serious  
Yes we know your question's serious

For our God remains mysterious  
Will forever be mysterious.

Let the air with joy be driven  
Rend with songs the air above  
For God's grace is freely given  
And we're blessed with God's own love

Nevermind the why and wherefore  
Do not worry what we're here for  
We can say with some conviction  
There are things we can't explain  
But our God has jurisdiction  
And his powers we proclaim.

*(as above)*

Nevermind the why and wherefore  
Do not worry what we're here for  
Faith will lead to understanding  
To your hesitating heart  
All you're questions notwithstanding  
God will finally truth impart.

For We Are Presbyterian

We are Pres-by-ter-i-an  
For we ourselves have said it  
And it's greatly to our credit  
That we are Pres-by-ter-i-an  
That we are Presbyterian

For we might have been a Shaker  
A Methodist or Quaker  
Or Episcopalian.....

But we never have temptation  
For another denomination  
We are Presbyterian  
We are Presbyterian.