The Very Model of Mormon Intellectual
by Nathan Oman

(To be sung to the music of Gilbert & Sullivan’s “The Very Model of a Modern Major General”)

I am the very model of a Mormon intellectual
I’ve information factual as well as theological
I know the scribes of Joseph and can quote the moves historical
From Zion’s Camp to Council Bluffs in order categorical

I’m very well acquainted to with matters metaphysical
I understand the nature of old Orson’s fluid spiritual
About finite omnipotence I’m teeming with a lot of news
With many cheerful facts about the Prophet’s pre-Adamic views!

Chorus:
With many cheerful facts about the Prophet’s pre-Adamic views!
With many cheerful facts about the Prophet’s pre-Adamic views!
With many cheerful facts about the Prophet’s pre-Adamic views!

I’m very good at poking fun at CES pomposity
I’ve read the diaries of Wilford Woodruff with velocity
In short in matters factual as well as theological
I am the very model of a Mormon intellectual!

Chorus:
In short in matters factual as well as theological
He is the very model of a Mormon intellectual!

I know our secret history from polyandry up to Adam-God
I answer Anti questions with apologetic Dialogue
I quote from Nibley, Arrington, McConkie, and D. Michael Quinn
In context, I can understand why Danites made the Gentiles cringe.

I can tell undoubted documents from Hoffman’s clever forgeries
I know the home-grown chorus in the verse of Orson F. Whitney
I can sing the hymns of Phelps without the vengeful lyrics purged
And whistle all the swelling chords from songs arranged by Mack Wilberg!

Chorus:
And whistle all the swelling chords from songs arranged by Mack Wilberg!
And whistle all the swelling chords from songs arranged by Mack Wilberg!
And whistle all the swelling chords from songs arranged by Mack Wilberg!

I can write in both Reformed and Un-reformed Egypt’ian
And tell you every detail of hist’ry Mulekitian
In short in matters factual as well as theological
I am the very model of a Mormon intellectual!

Chorus:
In short in matters factual as well as theological
He is the very model of a Mormon intellectual!

Of course, I’m rather clueless as to how to make a ward run well
An Aaronic Priesthood mutiny I don’t know how to stop or quell
Planning things like firesides and socials I’m more wary at
And I’ve no clue precisely how to raise our sad home-teaching stats.

When I have learnt what progress has been made in church bureaucracy
When I know more of handbooks than about the trial of John D. Lee
In short when I am on the stand as couns’lor at the bishop’s knee
You know the end has come at last and to the mountains you should flee!

Chorus:
You know the end has come at last and to the mountains you should flee!
You know the end has come at last and to the mountains you should flee!
You know the end has come at last and to the mountains you should flee!

For my ecclesial knowledge, though I am plucky and adventury
Has only been brought down to the beginning of last century
But still in matters factual as well as theological
I am the very model of a Mormon intellectual!

Chorus:
But still in matters factual as well as theological
He is the very model of a Mormon intellectual!