

Arthur G. Racey

The Englishman in Canada

(1902)

**Présentation de Michel Viau
Préface de Percy St. Clair Hamilton**

CHRONOGRAPHE
MEMOIRE

La série de dessins humoristiques *The Englishman in Canada* a d'abord été publiée dans le journal *Montreal Daily Star*, à l'automne 1901, puis rassemblée en album en 1902. C'est cette édition qui est reproduite intégralement dans sa version originale anglaise.

La collection Chronographe est dédiée à la publication de bandes dessinées du patrimoine québécois en format numérique.

The Englishman in Canada par Arthur G. Racey
Restauration, dossier et montage : Michel Viau

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Les aventures d'un gentleman anglais au Canada

En 1905, deux nouvelles provinces canadiennes sont créées à partir des Territoires du Nord-Ouest : la Saskatchewan et l'Alberta. Pour développer ces vastes prairies, le gouvernement a besoin de fermiers et compte sur l'immigration pour y parvenir.

Le gouvernement canadien, sous la houlette du ministre de l'Intérieur Clifford Sifton, initie donc une vaste entreprise de promotion de l'Ouest canadien tant aux États-Unis qu'en Europe. Cette campagne est un succès et les immigrants affluent des États-Unis, d'Ukraine et d'Allemagne. Mais le Canada veut éviter de devenir comme son voisin du Sud, tel que le présente le *Canadian Magazine* : « ...aussi grossier, aussi inculte, aussi volage, aussi hétérogène, aussi peu attaché à la loi et l'ordre, et au civisme que les États-Unis.¹ »

Aussi, au début du XX^e siècle, le sentiment d'appartenir au vaste empire britannique est toujours très puissant au Canada anglais. La population de l'Ontario ne descend-elle pas en grande partie des soldats anglais venus défendre

le pays contre les invasions américaines de 1776 et 1812 ?

Dans les écoles ontariennes, on enseigne tout autant l'histoire de l'Angleterre que celle du Canada et les enfants apprennent les noms des monarques britanniques et des héros de l'empire. Les fiers sujets de Sa Majesté constituent donc les colons idéaux pour l'Ouest canadien, croit-on alors. N'ont-ils pas apporté la civilisation dans les contrées les plus éloignées, des îles Fidji à la Jamaïque en passant par les Indes, le Kenya, Hong Kong et l'Australie ?

Le gouvernement canadien lance donc également une vaste opération de séduction en Angleterre et en Écosse afin d'attirer les fermiers britanniques au Canada. Un bureau d'immigration est ouvert à Trafalgar Square, au cœur de Londres et les agents canadiens sillonnent le pays en vantant les avantages de l'immigration au Canada. Les bureaux de poste arborent tous des affiches louant les merveilles du Canada. Les compagnies maritimes multiplient les publicités dans les journaux. Malgré cette campagne intensive, bien peu de candidats se présentent. La cause en est fort simple : les fermiers britanniques ne

1 Berton, Pierre. *The Promised Land: Settling the West 1896-1914*, Anchor Canada, 2002.



Arthur George Racey, vers 1904.
Photo William Notman - Musée McCord

Racey publie *The Englishman in Canada*. Cette série de 18 dessins humoristiques paraît à l'automne 1901 et présente un fils de famille qui s'embarque pour le Canada afin de « ... tuer des Indiens, faire fortune et toutes ces sortes de choses. » La série est reprise l'année suivante dans un petit album éponyme accompagné d'une préface du journaliste néo-écossais Percy St. Clair Hamilton.

Le succès de *The Englishman in Canada* est tel que l'album est réimprimé sept fois et que ses ventes atteignent 350 000 exemplaires!

Arthur G. Racey, cartoonist

Arthur George Racey est né en 1870, dans la ville de Québec. Son père, John Racey, est gouverneur et chirurgien chef

de l'Hôpital Jeffery Hale, une institution anglophone et protestante, de la capitale provinciale. Arthur Racey fait des études en art au collège St. Francis, à Richmond, un établissement affilié à l'Université McGill. C'est au cours de ces années d'apprentissage qu'il développe un intérêt pour la caricature. Il poursuit ses études à la Montreal Art Gallery, ainsi que dans diverses autres établissements.

Ses premiers dessins sont publiés dans le *Montreal Witness*. En 1895 et 1896, il collabore au *Canard* d'Hector Berthelot pour lequel il réalise plusieurs caricatures mettant en scène le Père Ladébauche. À la même époque, il fait paraître des caricatures politiques dans *The Globe* et collabore à diverses publications satiriques telles *The Grip*, à Montréal, et *The Moon*, à Toronto. Ses illustrations paraissent dans *Le Monde illustré*, *The Metropolitan*, *The Montreal Herald*, *The Toronto Star* et diverses autres publications.



QUEL CHEMIN PRENDRE ?

LAURIER — Quelle route me conseillez-vous de prendre ? Je crains de m'égarer dans ce pays.

LADÉBAUCHE. — Prenez celle qu'il vous plaira, mais je vous assure d'une chose. Lorsque vous serez rendu à mi-chemin de n'importe laquelle, vous vous repentirez de l'avoir prise.

Ladébauche conseille le Premier ministre Laurier. Une collaboration d'Hector Berthelot et Arthur Racey publiée dans *Le Canard* du 27 juillet 1895.



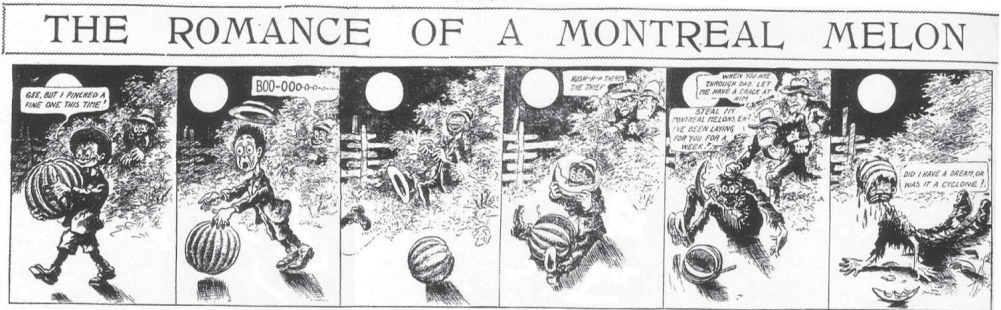
Quelques originaux de *The Englishman in Canada* sont conservés dans la collection des livres rares de l'Université McGill.

Mais Arthur Racey est surtout connu pour sa longue collaboration avec le quotidien *Montreal Daily Star*. Racey y fait paraître ses premiers dessins humoristiques en 1899 et demeure à l'emploi de ce journal pendant 42 ans. À la disparition prématurée d'Henri Julien, en 1908, Arthur Racey obtient le poste de caricaturiste attitré du quotidien montréalais.

En janvier 1912, Racey présente dans l'édition du samedi, un curieux *strip* hebdomadaire qui combine phylactères et texte sous l'image, et dont la dernière case est laissée blanche. Intitulée *What Happened Next ?*, cette série offre aux artistes en herbe la possibilité de compléter l'histoire. L'idée retenue, publiée dans le journal, vaut un prix à son auteur. La série se poursuit jusqu'en juillet 1913, puis Racey réalise quelques bandes humoristiques avant de concentrer ses activités sur les caricatures politiques et des illustrations de chroniques.

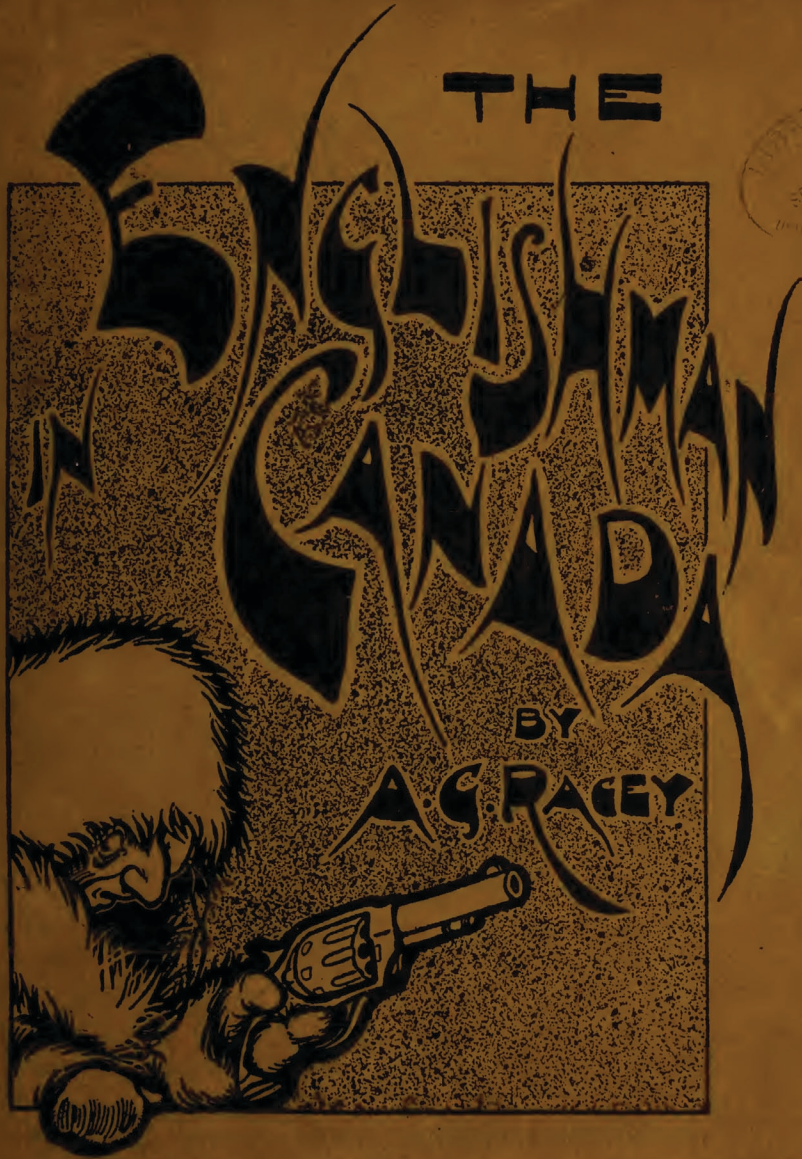
Dans la première moitié du XX^e siècle, plusieurs brasseries québécoises utilisent la bande dessinée pour vanter leurs produits. Ainsi, pour la brasserie Dawes, Arthur Racey réalise une bande publicitaire intitulée *T'a'pas ? (D'j'ever ?*, en anglais) de 1927 à 1932. Cette série de gags paraît dans la plupart des journaux québécois, quotidiens et hebdomadaires : *La Patrie*, *Le Petit Journal*, *Le Samedi*, *Le Canard*, *Le Bulletin de la ferme*, *Mon Magazine*, *La Revue Moderne*, *La Revue Populaire*, etc.

La réputation d'Arthur Racey franchi les



Paru le 20 septembre 1913, *The Romance of a Montreal Melon* est un des derniers *strips* humoristiques réalisés par Arthur Racey pour le *Montreal Daily Star*.

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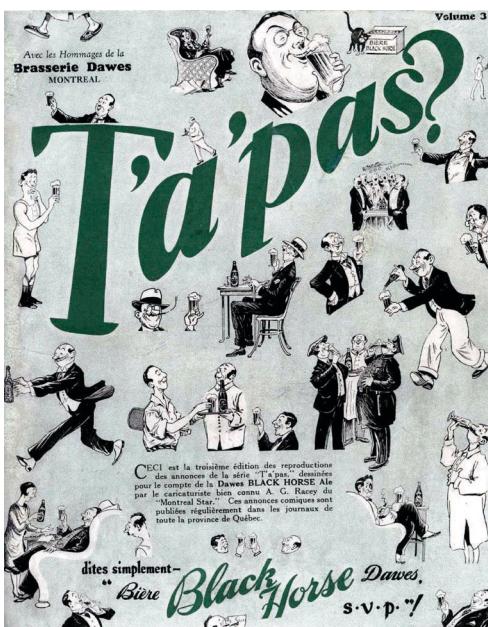


PRICE, 25 CENTS.

Couverture de l'édition de 1902.

frontières québécoises et ses caricatures sont reproduites dans des publications canadiennes, américaines, britanniques, françaises et même japonaises! Il donne à de nombreuses reprises des conférences sur l'art canadien et d'autres sujets. Au cours de la Première Guerre mondiale, une tournée de conférences lui permet d'amasser 50 000 \$ pour la Croix-Rouge. En 1927, Arthur Racey est un des sept juges du concours international de caricatures organisé par The American Art Student and Commercial Artist de New York.

Également peintre, Arthur G. Racey participe à des expositions dont celle de la Newspaper Artists' Association, en 1903. Cette exposition présente des œuvres, entre autres, d'Albéric Bourgeois, Joseph Charlebois, Henri Julien, Alonzo Ryan, Napoléon Savard, Edmond-J. Massicotte et Albert-Samuel Brodeur.



Couverture du troisième recueil de la série publicitaire *T'a'pas ?*



King's Mixed Pickles, une caricature d'Arthur Racey réalisée lors des élections fédérales de 1925.

Arthur George Racey décède en 1941. L'Université Trent conserve un fond d'environ 200 de ses dessins et caricatures. Les toiles et aquarelles d'Arthur Racey se retrouvent aujourd'hui dans plusieurs collections privées à travers le Canada. Ses caricatures et dessins humoristiques sont repris dans deux albums : *The Englishman in Canada* (1902) et *Canadian Men of Affairs in Cartoon* (1922), un recueil de caricatures et de portraits d'entrepreneurs canadiens. De même, ses bandes de la série *T'a'pas ?*, pour la bière Black Horse, ont fait l'objet d'au moins trois albums dans les années 1930.

Michel Viau
Montréal, 2015

Introduction

In the series of cartoons, "The Englishman in Canada." Mr. Racey has sought to convey a lesson of no small importance. He has tried to impress upon Englishmen the fact that the notions they have as the climate and other conditions in Canada are absurdly wrong. It seems incredible, but the fact cannot be doubted that the average Englishman associates going to Canada with life in log shanties, hunting bears, with snow shoes and fur garments as absolutely essential. To tell him that there are in Canada cities, where all the comforts of civilization, all the luxuries of home, are to be had, will be arouse him much doubt as to your veracity. To tell him that there is in Canada a population as refined, as educated, as diversified in habits and mode of life as that of London, and that a very small proportion of that population ever wore snow shoes of owned furs, will be to make him question your sanity. It is no great wonder that this is the fact when we find such strange lack of knowledge among those who are and have been the leaders of public opinion in Great Britain. We find the late Hon. W. E. Gladstone wrote in the Nineteenth Century a few years ago about Canada as:—"Those huge ice-bound deserts of North America." We, in Canada, know that there is in so vast a country as this, stretching from the Atlantic to the Pacific, every kind of

climate that it is healthy for white men to live in. We know that the North Pole is claimed to be a territory of Canada, so there is ice and snow, but we also know that there are places big enough to make the British Isles once or twice over where fragrant roses can be gathered in the garden at Christmas; where the balmy breath of the Pacific blows our places as little familiar with snow as England is with open air primroses in January. The parts of the country where the principal population is have warm summers, without being oppressively hot, and bright, clear, dry winters, with snow and ice in sufficient quantity to be useful and to make the season thoroughly enjoyable. During that winter some people prefer the warmth with little weight that furs give, and some "distinguished" appearance that furs are supposed to impart. For these reasons outside dealers-principally in England-succeed in selling us pretty nearly a million dollars worth of furs every year. That vast majority of people in Montreal, which is an average Canadian winter city, wear felt or silk hats and unlined kid or leather gloves all winter, and just about the same kind of great coat they would wear if in England. The fact that our climate was pictured in England and believed by the people there to be a region of almost perpetual snow has long been a matter upon which Ca-

nadian were very sensitive. It was made use of to retard the development of the country, to deter emigrants from going to Canada. We abandoned our winter sports to a large extent for some years, dropped the bright winter carnivals, closed up our toboggan slides, put away our snowshoes, made the picturesque winter blanket suits into rag mats, used the ice for making beverages palatable, instead of making ice palaces. All these things we gave up and allowed them to be monopolized by St. Paul and other cities in the United States, although they had originated with us. We made this sacrifices because we found that descriptions of these winter amusements were being made use of to convey to our oversea brothers the idea that we were very near of being Esquimaux in our way of living, and that we had an Arctic climate. It appeared to make little difference. Within a few months even the London Times told us that the reason a larger number of Englishman preferred "to live in the temperate zone." Kipling, with the best intention in the world, made a poem about us in which he yielded to the popular prejudice and called Canada "Our Lady of the Snows." The Colonial Secretary, Hon. Mr. Chamberlain, has endeavored more than most other Englishmen who were ever in public life to know and understand something about the colonies. Yet a few weeks ago when a delegation approached him for aid towards taking some Welsh settlers from Patagonia to Canada, he showed what his idea of this country was by saying:—"I would only say that it struck me while you were speaking that the change of climate—from a very hot country to the terrible rigour of the Canadian Winter—might be rather a danger to face."

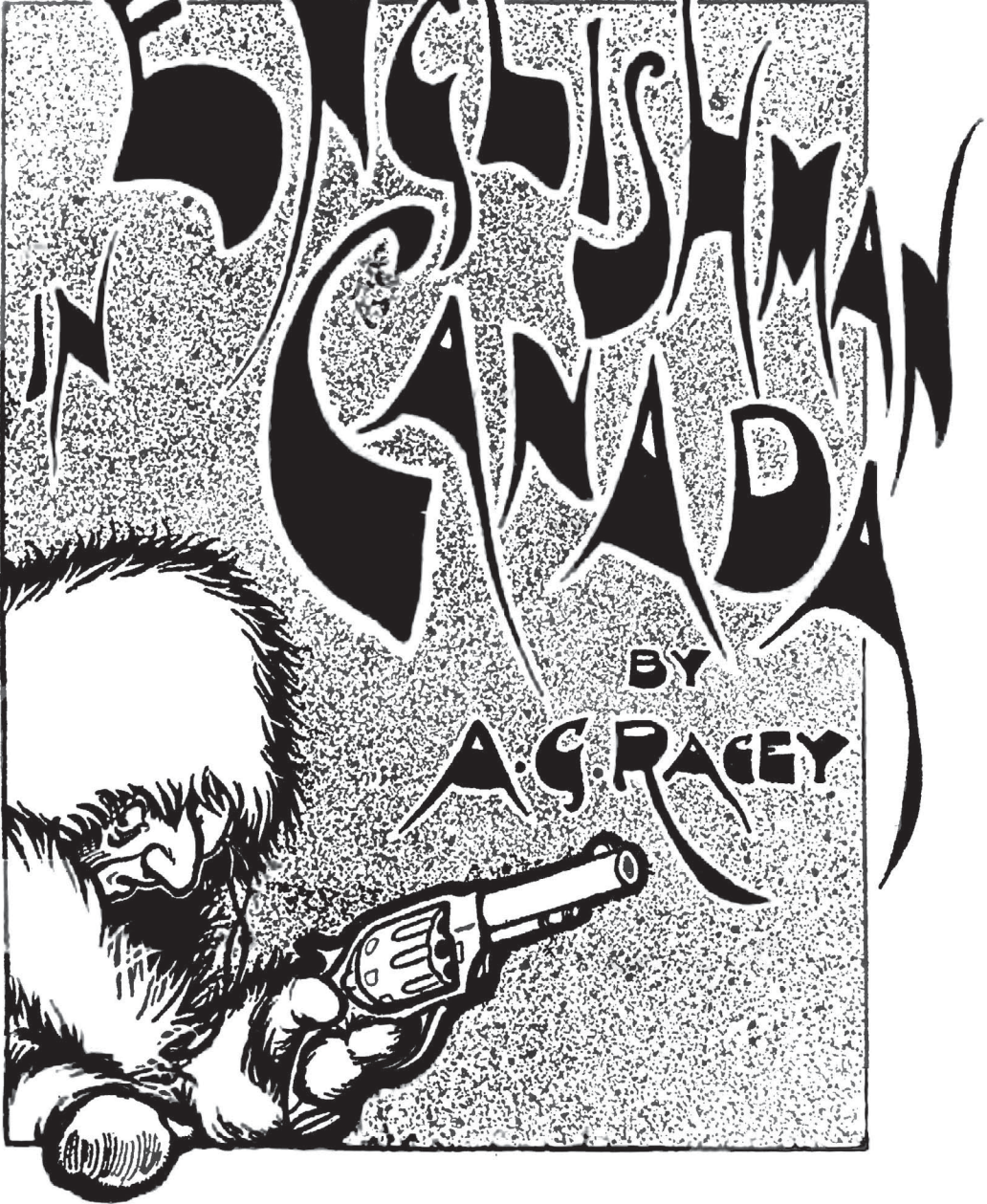
Some years ago one of the cable steamers was off the coast of Guysborough, in Nova Scotia, when it was found the fresh water supply was running short. Before leaving England the people on the steamer had read of some murderous doings of Indians out here in America, and it was deemed hardly safe to land as the woods on the coast look very promising as a place of ambush. However, the necessity was urgent, and a boat was despatched to the shore with water casks. The crew were all well armed in case of attack, and the coast was approached very cautiously. Part of the crew were left to guard the boat and the rest advanced in open order inland, with guns and pistols ready. Presently they came to a clearing and saw a house and a man in his shirt sleeves pursuing the peaceful occupation of hoeing a potato patch. They accosted him and asked if he knew where they could obtain water. He was a white man and could speak English. He pointed to the well close by. While the casks were being filled the man and his visitors exchanged some thoughts. "I see you've got ruffles with you; you better be careful, for there's a fine on the moose now -and there ain't much moose here either," said the hardly husbandman. "We do not intend hunting moose," replied the leader of the party. "Well, you don't be going to shoot partridges with ruffles, and anyhow there's a fin onto partridges, too," remarked the man with the hoe. "Have the Indians caused you much trouble out here in this lonely place?" queried the mariner. "Injuns? There ain't no Injuns here-except a couple of tents out back of Guysborough town, where the squaws makes basskits," replied the farmer. The further enquiry as whether it was not a fact that some thousands of

them had broken out and gone on the war path, killing a large number of people, made the farmer look at his guests with silent amazement for a minute, and then he called a lady who had come to the door of the house, "Mother!" When the lady advances he repeated the question to her and asked her if she has ever heard anything about it. She thought for a while and then said she did think she saw something about it in the Family Herald and Weekly Star some weeks ago. "There," exclaimed the leader of the party, "you see it is better to be on the safe side, so we came armed." "But," said the lady, "the Indians were breaking out of Texas, in the United States, and causing trouble in Mexico. That is a good many thousands of miles from here." They returned to the steamer, and it was only after a long stay on this side that they fully realized the absurdity of their conduct in making their first landing in Canada armed to the teeth for

fear of attack from the natives. All sort of expedients have been resorted to with the object of teaching Englishmen that Canada is a very pleasant country to live in, with some millions of acres of as fine wheat-growing land as there is on earth, and everything essential to make men happy, peaceful and contented. Mr. Racey has, with his pencil, attempted to draw a series of object lessons which shall impress upon English people in England the advisability of learning something about the kind of country the dominion beyond the seas really is and what manner of people live there. The cartoons originally appeared in the Montreal Daily Star, and Mr. Racey republishes them by permission in the present form in response to a very general demand.

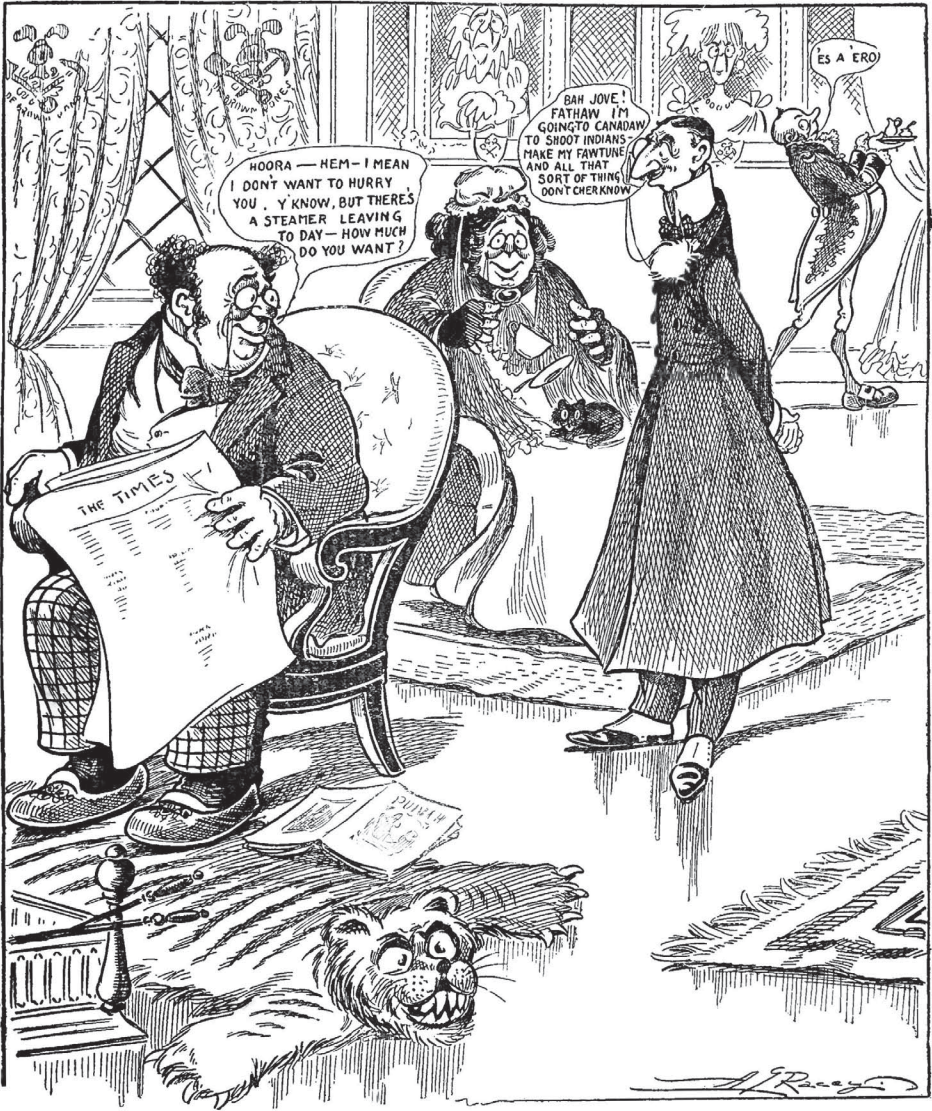
Percy St. Clair Hamilton
Montreal, 1901.

THE



BY
A. G. RACEY

THE ENGLISHMAN IN CANADA.



Clarence, the Younger Son and Dead Game Sport of the de Brown Jones Family, decides to Go to Canada. His Parents Sorrowfully Give Their Consent.



He Straightway Secures a Number of Canadian "Souvenir" and "Guide" Books Compiled by Authors With More Imagination than Patriotism.

THE ENGLISHMAN IN CANADA.



He Begins to Purchase His Outfit.

THE ENGLISHMAN IN CANADA.



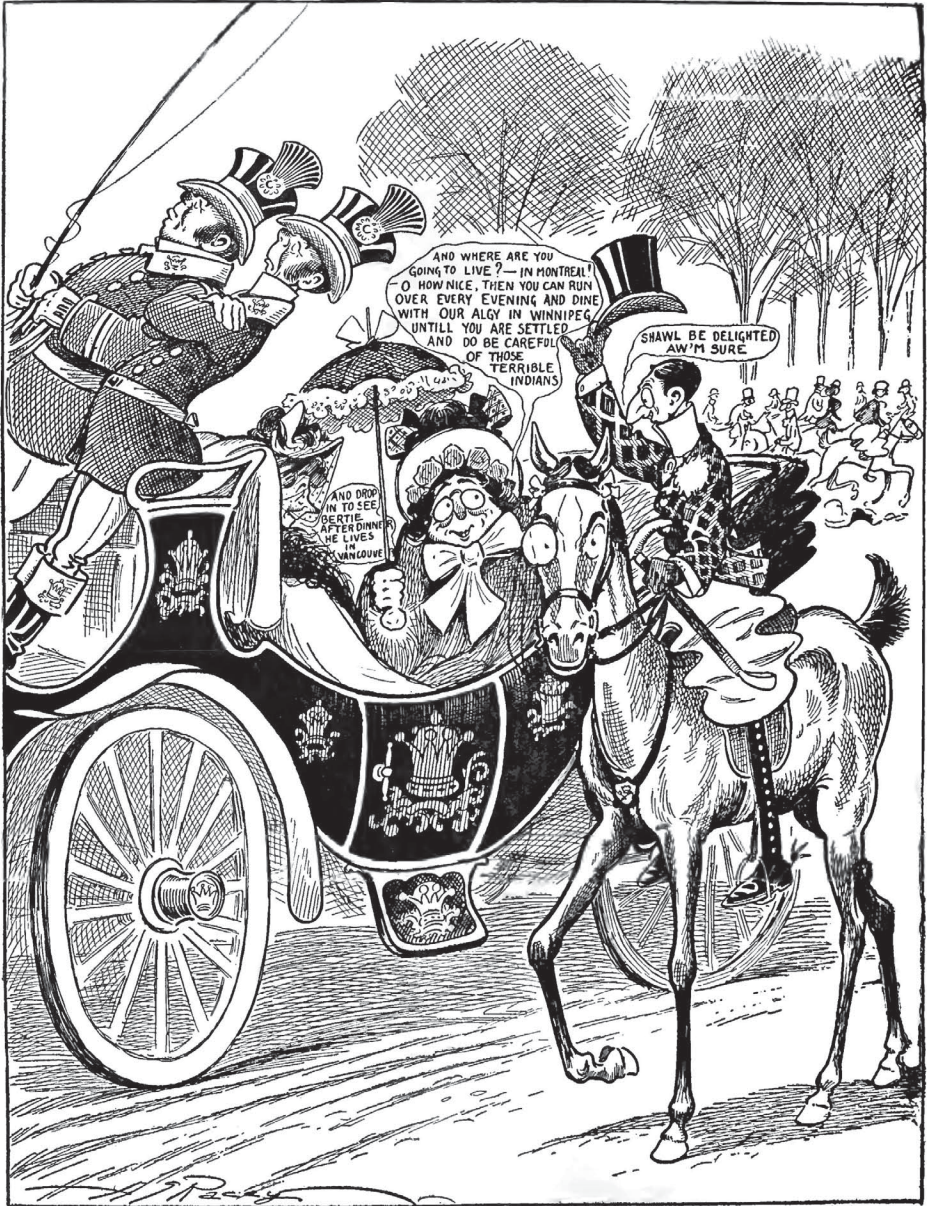
He Continues to Purchase His Outfit.

THE ENGLISHMAN IN CANADA.



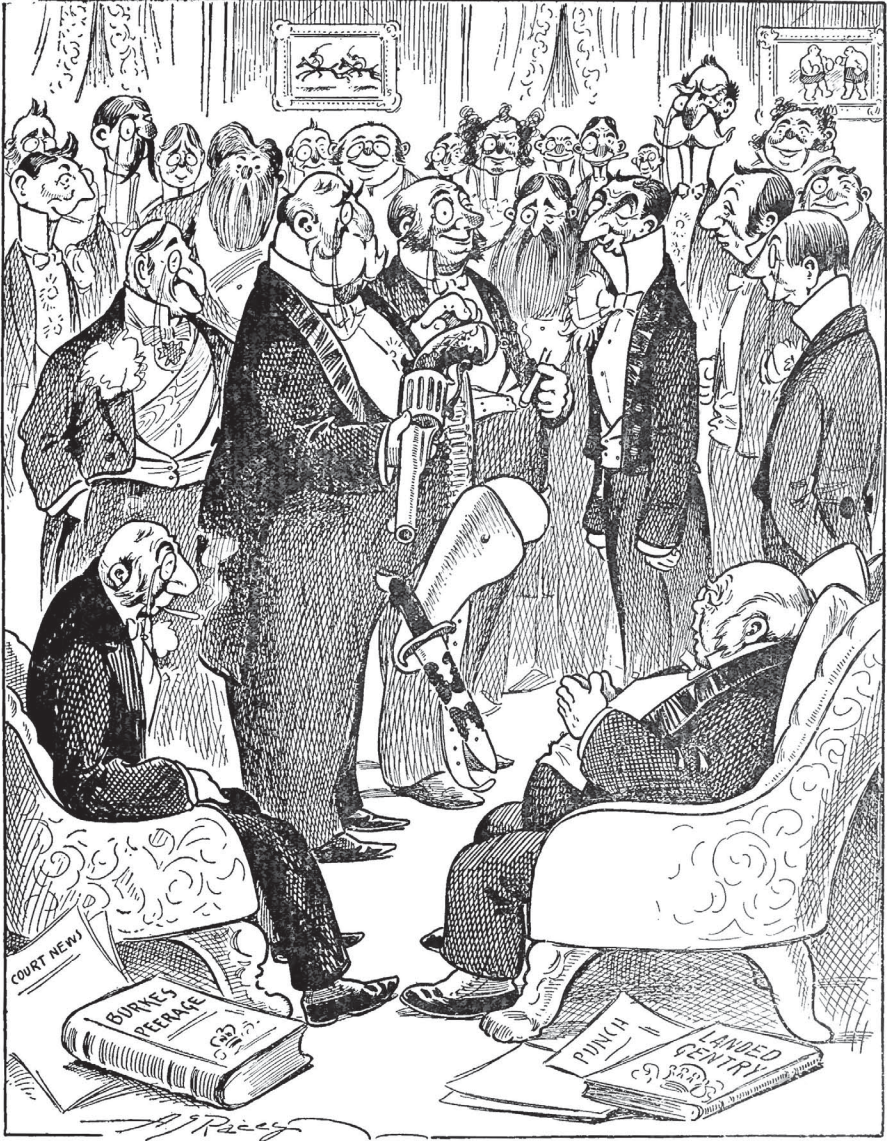
He Completes His Purchases.

THE ENGLISHMAN IN CANADA.



He takes a final ride in the Row before sailing on the morrow and bids farewell to many friends.

THE ENGLISHMAN IN CANADA.



He Bids Farewell to His Club and is presented with a couple of "Vewy Hawndy Awrticles, Don't Cher Know" by the Members.

THE ENGLISHMAN IN CANADA.



He Goes on Board.

THE ENGLISHMAN IN CANADA.



During the Voyage Over He is Takative.

THE ENGLISHMAN IN CANADA.



He lands at Montreal.

THE ENGLISHMAN IN CANADA.



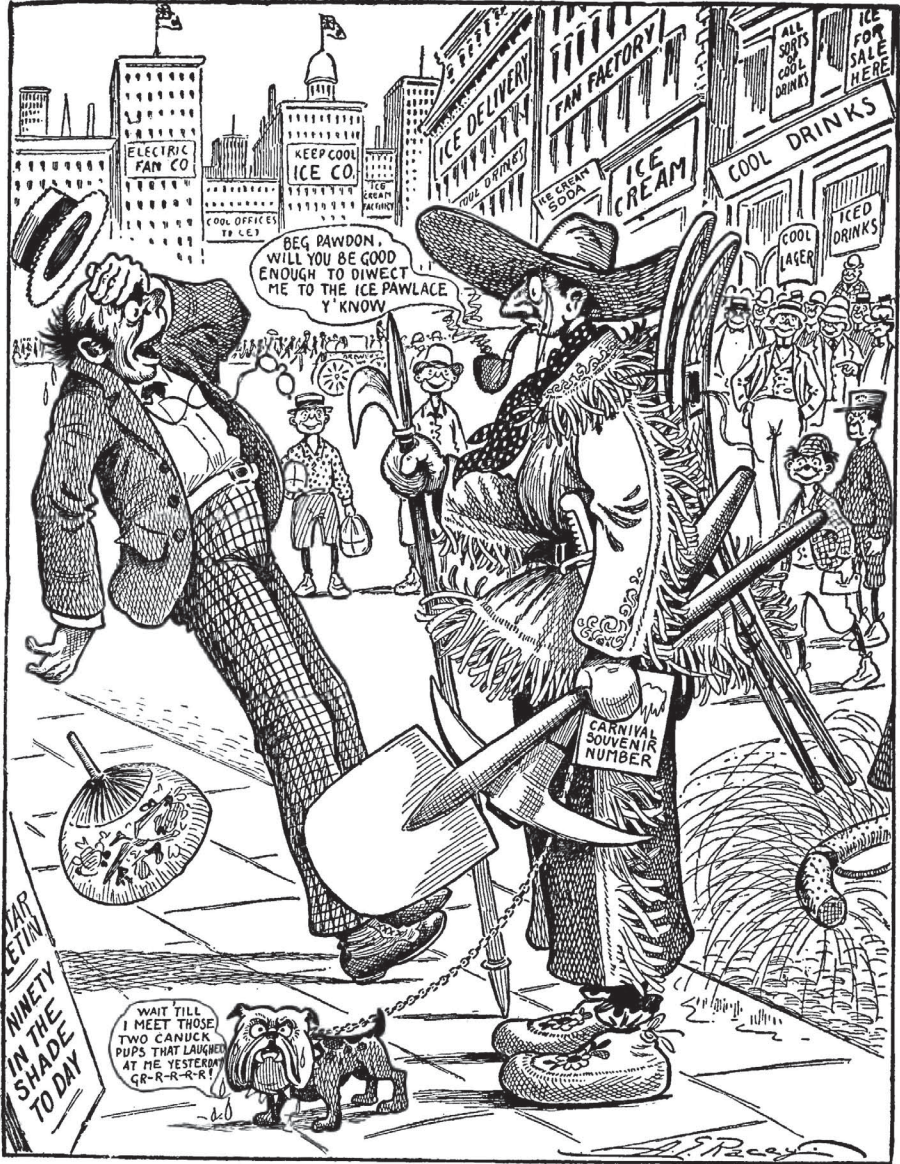
He begins to find that things are rather different than he was led to expect.

THE ENGLISHMAN IN CANADA.



The Policeman—Yer Anner, the prisoner here got off der steamer in dis rig wid all thim guns an things sticking' all over him, and talked bughouse about Injins and Bears, so I pinched him.
The Judge—What is he?
The Policeman—A newly arrived Englishman, Yer Anner.
The Judge—Discharged!—Next!

THE ENGLISHMAN IN CANADA.



He is very much surprised to find houses in Montreal and starts out to look for the twenty-foot icicles, snow-drifts, etc., etc., etc., he has heard so much about, and is asked by many if he takes the Country for a Blooming Refrigerator.



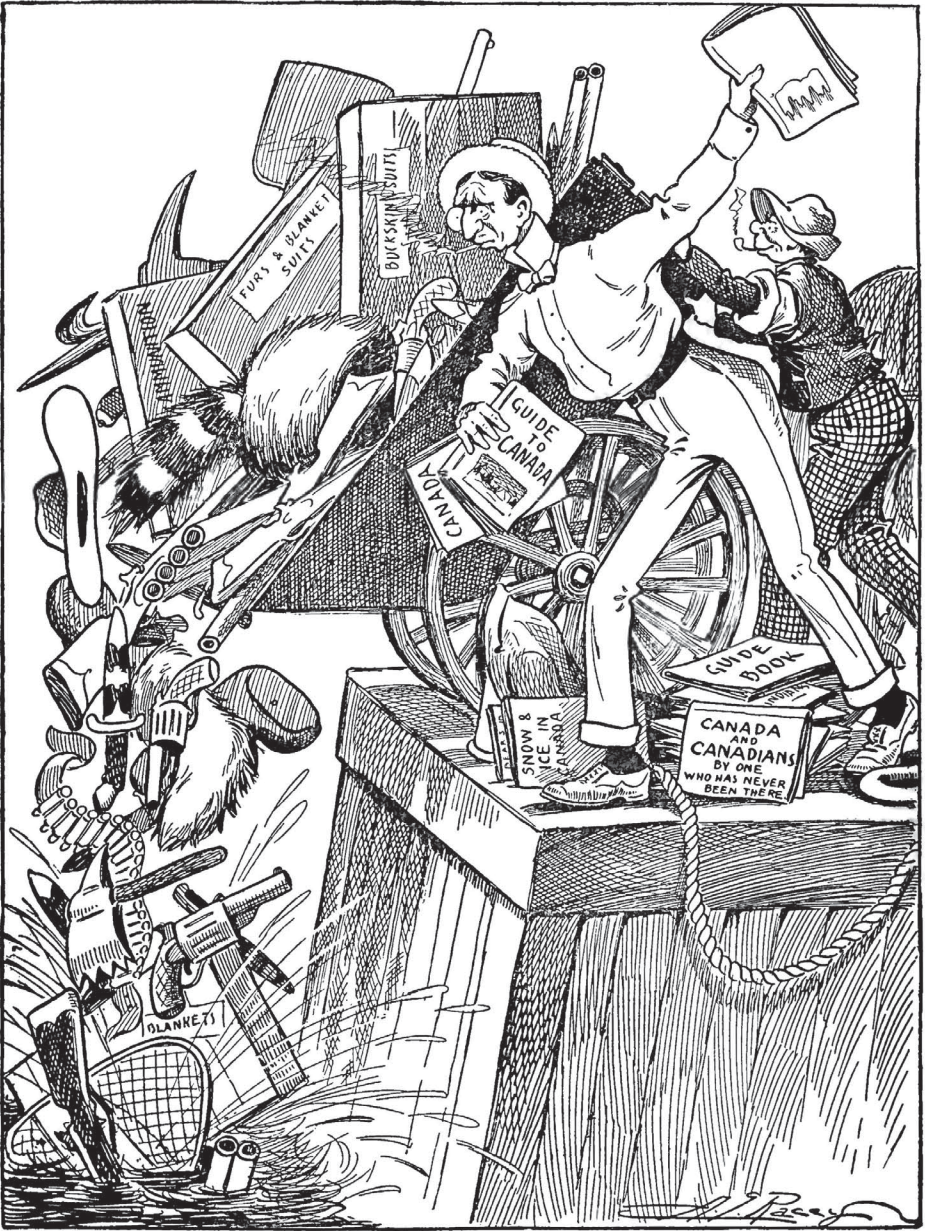
He suddenly comes across the only species of Indian and Bear that is well known in Canada to-day.

THE ENGLISHMAN IN CANADA.



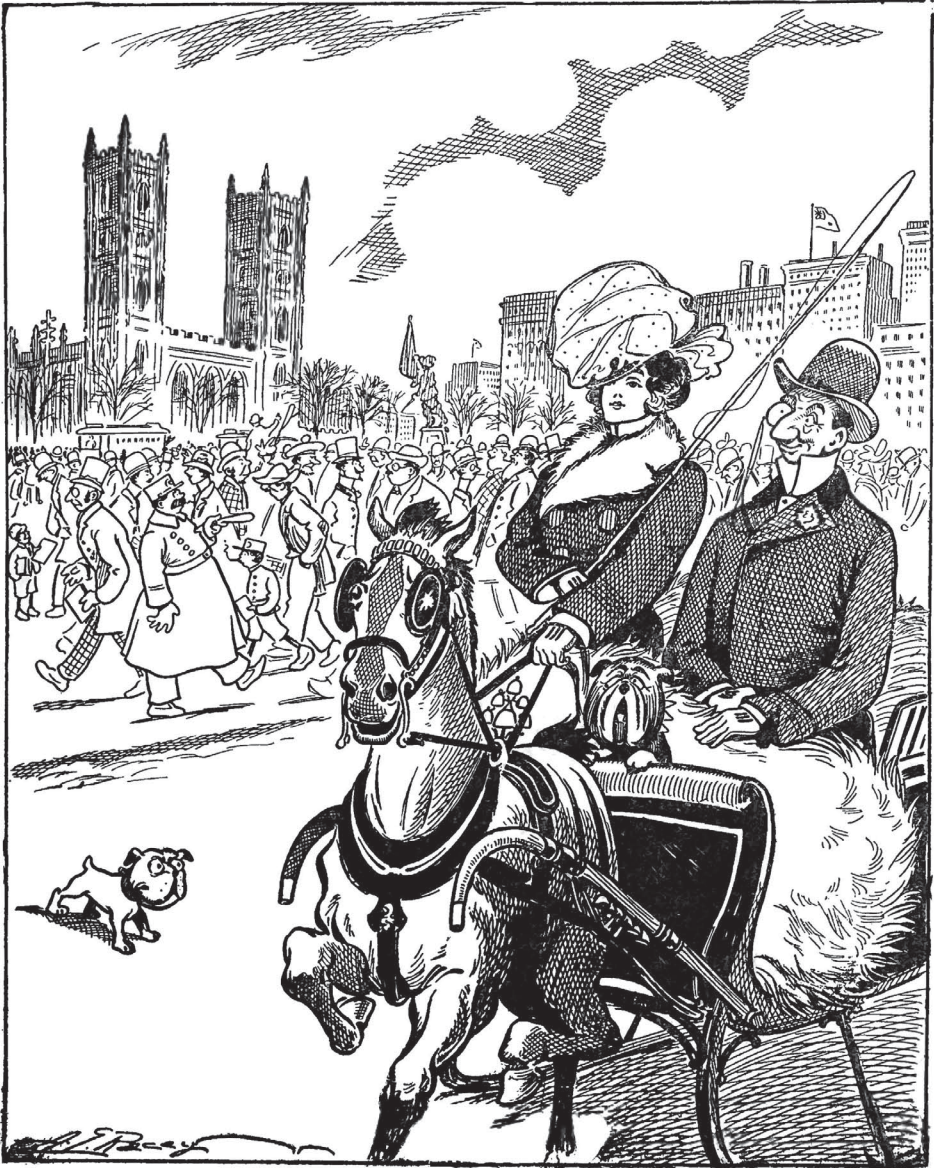
He is overcome by the heat in Canada.

THE ENGLISHMAN IN CANADA.



Disgusted at being a victim to the dense ignorance displayed in the Old Country with regard to Canada he disposes of his arsenal, furs, guide books and other impedimenta.

THE ENGLISHMAN IN CANADA.



He is delighted with the beautiful Canadian winter season, which is very different from what he was led to expect at home, and he finds Canadians very much like any other people, only smarter, more practical, independent and prosperous and too busy chasing the almighty \$ to pay any attention to the wild fairy tales told about Canada. He finds Canadian girls prettier and nicer than the girls of any other country—one girl especially.

THE ENGLISHMAN IN CANADA.



TEN YEARS LATER.

The Prosperous English Canadian—"Yes, my dears; more naughty stories are told about this glorious country of ours than of any other land. Some day, if you are good, I will take you to London and show you some real live bears at the Zoo; then we'll go to the British Museum and see a stuffed Indian. England is the only country in which we can see them. Now, we will all sing 'The Maple Leaf Forever' and then you must run off to bed like good children."



CHRONOGRAPHE

Les archives de la BDQ

Collection dirigée par Michel Viau

(Titres offerts en format pdf)

1901

En roulant ma boule par Raoul Barré

1902

The Englishman in Canada par Arthur G. Racey (version originale anglaise)

1913

À l'hôtel du Père Noé / Noahzark Hotel par Raoul Barré (à paraître)

1920-1921

Les Aventures de Timothée : Le retour de Timothée par Arthur LeMay

1935-1937

L'Oncle Pacifique - Tome 1 par Vic. Martin

1936-1937

Les Anciens Canadiens par Jean-Maurice Massicotte et Pierre Deléan, d'après
Phillipe Aubert de Gaspé

1937

Son chemin de Damas par Jean-Jacques Cuvelier et Émery De Paincourt

1949-1950

Les Aventures du Captain Morgan

1952

Les Dossiers de l'ineffable M. Brillant par Jack Der

Chez le même éditeur

(Titres offerts en formats papier et pdf)

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• Warren Publishing • La guerre des rues et des maisons • Marc Tessier

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Jacques Samson

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Michel Viau

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