

## VOYAGEUR DIALOGUE

### **PRIEST:**

'Ti Jean! You'll be late for your own funeral! Madeleine, pull up your stockings! Mon Dieu! Catherine where is your bonnet? Don't you know people will be looking at you? (*ALBERT moves forward, the worse for wear*) Albert, straighten your tie! This is a Christmas party not a poker party.

### **ALBERT**

Oui, oui mon pere, but it *is* party time so go easy on us eh?

### **GASTON**

Yeah, yeah, we need your *spiritual* guidance.

### **PRIEST**

Eh?

### **GASTON**

We have a lot of spirits to drink.

*Laughter*

### **PRIEST**

*Attempting to cover the ears of the children*

Shhhhh! Gaston, someday your mouth is going to get you into a lot of trouble!

Alors mes enfants - un, deux, trios.....

### **WOMAN**

Ça va Gaston? Save the last dance for me.

### **GASTON**

I will...I will! I bet you can dance like the devil

### **PRIEST**

Language, Gaston!

### **GASTON**

Give the Devil his due, mon père, he knows how to dance. I bet the parties are good in hell.

### **PRIEST**

Gaston!

### **GASTON**

I bet the liquor's good too!

*Climbing on to a chair*

I raise my glass to him. *LE DIABLE!*

**TI JEAN:**

Eh, Albert, you know how much the Company is paying for beaver pelts this year?

**ALBERT**

For beaver? Same as always.....fifty cents? (*Ti Jean shakes his head*) A dollar? (*another shake*) More?

**TI JEAN**

Two dollars!

*(other men have heard and come forward)*

**PIERRE**

Two dollars? Two dollars for each pelt?

**GASTON**

Yes, it's true.

**TI JEAN**

Mon dieu....it is worth pursuing, no?

**ALBERT**

Mon ami, it is worth pursuing.....YES!

**GASTON**

Bien! Tomorrow morning, Andre and I are starting work on the big canoe at Jacques' place. If the beaver are breeding like he says, by next Christmas we'll put new hats on a thousand Englishmen. Who wants to join us and be a *voyageur*?

**MEN**

I'll go. / Count me in. / But of course! / etc.

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**ALBERT**

Another New Year! I thought you said we'd be rich men by now, and back home drinking toasts and dancing. Dancing! The only dancing around here is Ti-Jean trying to keep his feet warm.

**GASTON**

Merde!

**TI-JEAN**

If we could only be back in Trois Rivières. I can see it now, the food, the drink, the dancing – Isabelle. Marie.

**PIERRE**

Helene.....

**JACQUE**

Catherine.....

**ANDRE**

Carole.....

**HENRI**

Francoise.....

**GASTON**

Ah, Francoise.....La belle Francoise!