

Jules Verne's Hidden Inspiration for Mr Fix in *Around the World in Eighty Days*

All these can be said of both Mr Lamb and Mr Fix:		Lamb	Fix	Ref.
1	He is an Englishman...	✓	✓	<i>Ch. 6</i>
2	...with a background in the British public sector.	✓	✓	<i>Ch. 6</i>
3	His surname is a common monosyllabic English word.	✓	✓	<i>Ch. 5</i>
4	He is first encountered in connection with a major seaport...	✓	✓	<i>Ch. 6</i>
5	...on historically British soil...	✓	✓	<i>Ch. 6</i>
6	...known for its commercial importance to the Victorian world...	✓	✓	<i>Ch. 6</i>
7	...which boomed in the mid-19th century thanks to engineering innovation.	✓	✓	<i>Ch. 6</i>
8	He is closely concerned with, and has been known to instruct others in, matters of geography.	✓	✓	<i>Ch. 9</i>
9	He is engaged in an investigative quest...	✓	✓	<i>Ch. 5</i>
10	...and voluntarily making a controversial assertion...	✓	✓	<i>Ch. 5</i>
11	...which occasions much discussion in a public sphere...	✓	✓	<i>Ch. 5</i>
12	...and is overtly linked to the Alabama Claim.	✓	✓	<i>Ch. 5</i>
13	He asserts there is an exact, previously unnoticed identity between two men.	✓	✓	<i>Ch. 5</i>
14	His Man #1 is an adventurous criminal...	✓	✓	<i>Ch. 6</i>
15	...whose forename derives from the Bible...	✓	✓	<i>Ch. 36</i>
16	...whose surname is a monosyllable beginning with S...	✓	✓	<i>Ch. 36</i>
17	...who caused an international furore in the mid-19th century...	✓	✓	<i>Ch. 3</i>
18	...who was on a raiding spree from a September to a December...	✓	✓	<i>Ch. 36</i>
19	...who was pursued by the government of a major world power...	✓	✓	<i>Ch. 3</i>
20	...who had a bounty put upon his head...	✓	✓	<i>Ch. 3</i>
21	...whose exploits were closely linked in 1872 with a large sum of British money...	✓	✓	<i>Ch. 3</i>
22	...who was notorious for his ability to evade capture...	✓	✓	<i>Ch. 3</i>
23	...and who was accused of piracy.	✓	✓	<i>Ch. 33</i>
24	His Man #2 is a fictional, mysterious world traveller...	✓	✓	<i>Ch. 1</i>
25	...who is a cool-headed, calm-faced man...	✓	✓	<i>Ch. 1</i>
26	...who surrounds himself with chronometers...	✓	✓	<i>Ch. 1</i>

27	...who is known to be expert with maps...	✓	✓	Ch. 1
28	...whose evocative name includes classical roots...	✓	✓	Ch. 1
29	...who evidently has prior experience as a sailor...	✓	✓	Ch. 33
30	...who is closely linked to the royal family of Bundelkhand...	✓	✓	Ch. 35
31	...and to a figure of 20,000 units of measurement...	✓	✓	Ch. 3
32	...and who is the central figure of a popular French novel...	✓	✓	<i>passim</i>
33	...written around 1870, give or take a year or two...	✓	✓	<i>passim</i>
34	...by Jules Verne.	✓	✓	<i>passim</i>
35	His assertion relies primarily on a series of shared characteristics...	✓	✓	Ch. 5
36	...widely circulated for public consumption...	✓	✓	Ch. 5
37	...as a written-out list of descriptive features...	✓	✓	Ch. 5
38	...which do indeed look at first glance to correspond point by point...	✓	✓	Ch. 5
39	...but which are also open to wide interpretation.	✓	✓	Ch. 6
40	He combines this list of characteristics with an array of circumstantial details...	✓	✓	Ch. 8
41	...which he interprets as rock-solid confirmation of his ideas.	✓	✓	Ch. 8
42	His energy and enthusiasm for his quest are obvious.	✓	✓	Ch. 6
43	He betrays much eagerness to have his ideas recognised...	✓	✓	Ch. 6
44	...and to have his eventual success widely rewarded.	✓	✓	Ch. 6
45	He regularly repeats his main points of inquiry with unflagging zeal.	✓	✓	Ch. 6
46	He is warned that the points of resemblance he has found are vague enough to be coincidence...	✓	✓	Ch. 6
47	...to which he scoffs at received opinion...	✓	✓	Ch. 6
48	...emphasising that his own method is fresh and intuitive.	✓	✓	Ch. 6
49	He celebrates the magnificent boldness of the crime...	✓	✓	Ch. 6
50	...and the sneaky imagination shown in the claimed cover-up...	✓	✓	Ch. 6
51	...arguing that most current work in the field is far too safe and narrow-reaching.	✓	✓	Ch. 6
52	His presentiments are judged to be rather bizarre.	✓	✓	Ch. 6
53	He presents his findings to an English-speaking expert...	✓	✓	Ch. 7
54	...who is working overseas on historically British-occupied territory...	✓	✓	Ch. 7
55	...and who casts significant doubt on his assertions...	✓	✓	Ch. 7
56	...which leads him to reinstate them with renewed vigour...	✓	✓	Ch. 7

57	...constantly re-emphasising a point-by-point correspondence...	✓	✓	Ch. 7
58	...and waving off expert objections as irrelevant.	✓	✓	Ch. 7
59	He identifies a friendly audience interested in the subject...	✓	✓	Ch. 8
60	...joining them in a public-sphere open-forum setting...	✓	✓	Ch. 8
61	...known for its international hubbub...	✓	✓	Ch. 6
62	...and its central dependency on a single oeuvre...	✓	✓	Ch. 6
63	...namely the inventively engineered, travel-oriented work...	✓	✓	Ch. 6
64	...of a world-famous 19th-century Frenchman.	✓	✓	Ch. 6
65	He keeps in contact with this audience via much conversation and sharing.	✓	✓	Ch. 8
66	His conversation in the forum provokes him further on his quest.	✓	✓	Ch. 8
67	His conversation in the forum branches off into a question of mathematics...	✓	✓	Ch. 8
68	...which he declines to unpack and decipher...	✓	✓	Ch. 8
69	...instead circling back, now urgently, to his own claim.	✓	✓	Ch. 8
70	He is faced with unexpected nuances that complicate his argument...	✓	✓	Ch. 15
71	...but which strengthen his resolve to follow his quest to the end...	✓	✓	Ch. 15
72	...such that he will devote most of his time to it.	✓	✓	Ch. 15
73	He hopes an ingenuous mode of approach will strengthen his claim...	✓	✓	Ch. 16
74	...though this occasions some disappointment.	✓	✓	Ch. 16
75	He becomes a regular, indeed predictable, sight to the audience he has contacted.	✓	✓	Ch. 19
76	He asks his audience to join his quest and support him...	✓	✓	Ch. 19
77	...emphasizing that his topic of discussion is important and concerns them closely.	✓	✓	Ch. 19
78	His audience discusses his argument...	✓	✓	Ch. 19
79	...and finds it cannot be supported wholeheartedly...	✓	✓	Ch. 19
80	...but he doubles down, insisting on its correctness...	✓	✓	Ch. 19
81	...again emphasizing the point-for-point correspondence...	✓	✓	Ch. 19
82	...and eventually descending to non-sequitur personal attack.	✓	✓	Ch. 19
83	He accepts help from those he disagrees with...	✓	✓	Ch. 20
84	...and thanks them cordially for their engagement...	✓	✓	Ch. 20

85	...while still maintaining his initial assertion.	✓	✓	Ch. 20
86	He does not refrain from public contact with the audience he has attacked...	✓	✓	Ch. 24
87	...and although communication has become markedly more strained...	✓	✓	Ch. 24
88	...and important differences between French and English systems are remarked upon...	✓	✓	Ch. 24
89	...the audience proves still amenable to civil engagement.	✓	✓	Ch. 24
90	He suggests a topic of discussion could be connected to the CSS Alabama...	✓	✓	Ch. 25
91	...though this connection turns out to be tenuous.	✓	✓	Ch. 25
92	His investigative journey inevitably leads him back to Liverpool...	✓	✓	Ch. 33
93	...which provokes him to speak sharply once again to his critics.	✓	✓	Ch. 33
94	He evokes legal authority in an attempt to back up his claim...	✓	✓	Ch. 33
95	...confident that a court of law would agree with his findings.	✓	✓	Ch. 34
96	His claim of identity between Man #1 and Man #2 is ultimately not found to hold up...	✓	✓	Ch. 34
97	...and is met with reactions ranging from frustration...	✓	✓	Ch. 34
98	...to light-hearted joking and wordplay.	✓	✓	Ch. 34
99	He is not shunned by those he disagrees with...	✓	✓	Ch. 37
100	...who continue to interact and share with him.	✓	✓	Ch. 37