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MAXFLOWER REACHES HER GOAL:

After nearly two months at sea, Mayflower the Second sails into harbour at Plymouth, Massachusetts - heading for the exact spot where her predecessor put the Pilgrim Fathers ashore 337 years ago, to found the first permanent European settlement in New England. Mayflower the Second's voyage, by the luck of wind and tide, has been 12 days quicker, and the welcome awaiting her is a very different from the bleak emptiness which greeted the first pilgrims.

The Mayflower drops anchor hard by Plymouth Rock, where some 25,000 people have gathered to watch the welcoming ceremony. A longboat brings Captain Alan Villiers and his crew ashore. They are dressed as the company of the first Mayflower were dressed, and the locals rise to the occasion. On the Rock itself, Captain Villiers is the first to be greeted.

So ends a 54-day adventure - a gesture of Anglo-American friendship which has caught the imagination of the world...