

The liner Queen Mary --- berthed at Southampton --- <sup>had</sup> brought the Queen Mother home to Britain after her tour on the other side of the Atlantic. And among the first official greetings on board, were those of the Mayor of Southampton, Alderman Edmunds; with a bouquet from the Mayoress.

~~Then Her Majesty left Southampton, where she herself had launched before the war;~~ and from ~~South~~ Southampton the train pulled out for the journey through the Hampshire countryside --- back to London.

To greet the Queen Mother at Waterloo Station, her daughter Queen Elizabeth arrived with the Duke of Edinburgh --- and the Duke of Cornwall and Princess Anne.

Whilst waiting for the Royal train, Her Majesty chatted with Sir Winston Churchill and Sir Anthony Eden. Princess Margaret was unable to complete the family picture, as she had to stay at home with a feverish cold.

Princess Anne looked especially charming in fur-trimmed hat and coat, and a little muff. But Prince Charles's attention, as always, was captivated by the escort of Guardsmen.

Then --- as the train pulled into the London terminus --- there were waves and smiles of first greeting --- and a rush of mounting excitement from the Royal <sup>children</sup> ~~grandchildren~~ at the first glimpse of their grandmother.

Next --- there were handshakes for the American Ambassador, Mr Winthrop Aldrich, and Sir Anthony Eden. And a brief wait for the open carriage which was to drive the re-united royal party through the streets from the station --- home. <sup>for</sup> The familiar greeting of London, at the end of a royal tour.

~~Happy as this was a winter day fall enough~~  
~~drive in an open carriage --- to complete this process~~  
~~has become a regular part of London life.~~

Along the Mall, the crowds stood many deep, to give their own welcome to a gracious lady, ~~who has long held a secure place in the hearts of all of us.~~ Cheering and waving greeted her, as the carriage with its escort swung down the broad avenue to ~~the~~ Clarence House. Welcome home again, to an envoy of Britain --- who gives an added lustre to the name of our homeland --- wherever she ~~xxxxxxxx~~ goes.