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## Mother's Watch

She never close her eyes to sleep till we were all in bed,  
And on party nights till we come home she often sat and read.

We little thought about it then, for we were young they say,  
Just how much mama worried when we children were away.

We only knew she never slept, and when we were out at night,  
That she waited just to know we'd all come home alright.

For sometimes when we'd stay away till one or two or three  
It seemed to us that mama heard the turnin' of the key.

For always when we'd step aside she'd call and we'd reply;  
But we were all too young back then to understand the reason why.

Until the last one had returned she'd always keep a light,  
For mama couldn't sleep until she kissed us all goodnight.

She had to know that we were safe before she went to rest,  
She seemed to fear that the world might harm the ones that she loved the best;

And once she said "when you are grown to women and to men,  
Perhaps I'll sleep the whole night through, I may be different then."

And so it seemed that night and day we knew a mother's care,  
That always when we got back home we'd find her waitin' there.

Then came the night when we were called to gather 'round her bed  
"The children are all with you now," the kindly doctor said.

And in her eyes there gleamed again that old time tender light  
That told that she'd just been waitin' to know we were alright.

She smiled that old familiar smile and prayed to God to keep  
Her children safe from harm throughout the years, and then she went to sleep.