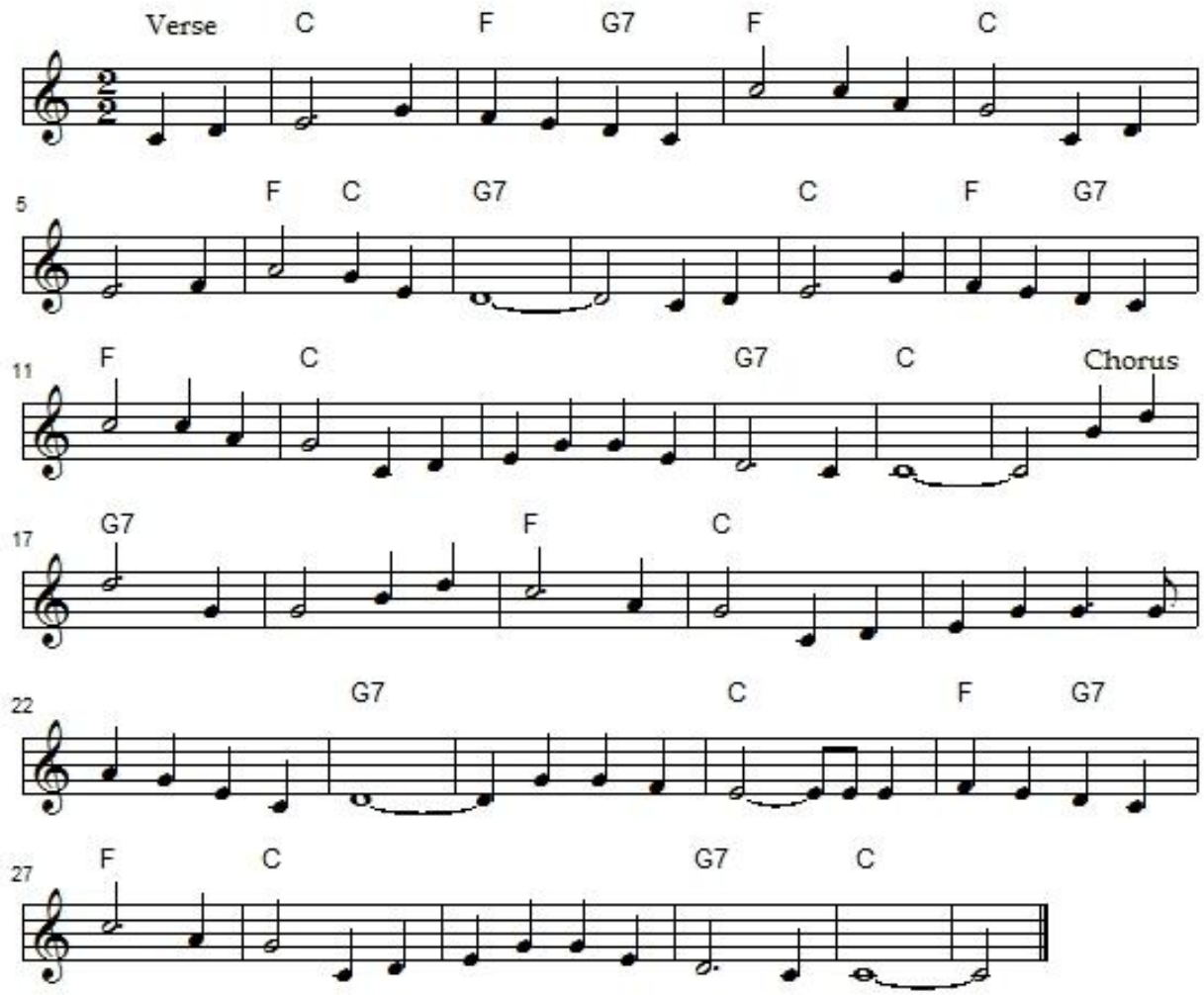
The Leaving of Liverpool



1. Farewell to Prince's Landing Stage
River Mersey, fare thee well
I am bound for California
A place I know right well

Chorus:
So fare thee well, my own true love
When I return united we will be
It's not the leaving of Liverpool that's grieving me
But my darling when I think of thee

2. I'm bound off for California
By the way of stormy Cape Horn
And I'm bound to write you a letter, love
When I am homeward bound

3. I have signed on a Yankee Clipper ship
Davy Crockett is her name
And Burgess is the Captain of her
And they say she's a floating Hell

4. I have shipped with Burgess once before
And I think I know him well
If a man's a seaman, he can get along
If not, then he's sure in Hell

5. Farewell to lower Frederick Street
Ensign Terrace and Park Lane
For I think it will be a long, long time
Before I see you again

6. Oh the sun is on the harbor, love
And I wish I could remain
For I know it will be a long, long time
Till I see you again

It was collected from only two singers by William Main Doerflinger, an American folksong collector particularly associated with sea songs.
It is listed in Roud as #9435.
Recorded by Lou Killen, The Clancy Brothers, Ewan MacColl, The Dubliners and others.
This is another one I learned by listening to the Clancys.