Going Down the River
Traditional

Arrangement (c) copyright 2010 by Donald J. Borchelt

Page 1 / 2
I learned this elegantly simple tune from the playing of fiddler Mike Roguska, at one of the Monday night jams at Sandy's Music in Cambridge, Massachusetts. It comes originally from Kentucky fiddler J.P. Fraley, and is on his landmark Rounder LP (0037), Wild Rose of the Mountain. Fraley sings a few words, the first two lines follow the A part, the second two the B part.

Oh, my little girl, if you don't do better,
Put you on a boat, gonna send you down the river.

Boat began to sink, my heart began to quiver,
Oh, my little girl, you're goin' down the river.

Andrew Kuntz, in his encyclopedic Fiddler's Companion web site, says that this tune is the same as the tune Little Dutch Girl. Though perhaps similar, I don't believe they are the same tune.