Sail Away Ladies

Key: D

"Sally Ann" version, with lyrics

From John Hartford, Bruce Molsky, et al.

1a. (Well,) I got a home in Ten-nes-see, (Sail a-way la-dies, sail a-way)
1b. If I ever get my way, (Sail a-way la-dies, sail a-way)

That's the place I want to be. (Sail a-way la-dies, sail a-way)
Ten- nes-see is where I'll stay. (Sail a-way la-dies, sail a-way)

Don't you rock 'em da-dee-o,* Don't you rock 'em da-dee-o,

Don't you rock 'em da-dee-o,* Sail a-way la-dies, sail a-way.

* Or "die-dee-o"

2a. (If) Ever I get my new house done, (Sail away ladies, sail away)
(I'll) give the old one to my son. (Sail away ladies, sail away)
2b. (If) Ever I finish this porch and stair, (Sail away ladies, sail away)
(I'll) sit around in my rockin' chair. (Sail away ladies, sail away)

Chorus

3a. - Ain't no use to sit and cry, (Sail away ladies, sail away)
you'll be an angel by and by. (Sail away ladies, sail away)
3b. - Come along boys** and go with me, (Sail away ladies, sail away)
we'll go down to Tennessee. (Sail away ladies, sail away)

** Or "girls" or "children,"

Chorus

This basic tune seems the most common for Sail Away Ladies; it's essentially the same as Sally Ann. Lyrics and repeat patterns vary considerably; these lyrics were combined from various sources, and set up for an AABB pattern. As a song it's usually played with half-length verses in an AB pattern, or ABB, as Bruce Molsky does it (the second B being instrumental); see his Lost Boy album, or for example here: www.youtube.com/watch?v=eHyk2lWvsQ (in C).

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