

Adieu Sweet Lovely Nancy

One of the best-known songs from the repertoire of the Copper Family. It was first collected in 1898 from James and Thomas Copper by Kate Lee and published in the Journal of the Folk Song Society in 1899. Roud 165.

*Adieu, sweet lovely Nancy, ten thousand times adieu
I'm a-going round the ocean, love, to seek for something new
Come change your ring with me, dear girl, come change your ring
with me*

For it might be a token of our true love while I am on the sea

*When I am far upon the sea you know not where I am
Kind letters I will write to you from every foreign land
The secrets of your heart, dear girl, are the best of my good will
So let my body be where it might, my heart is with you still*

*There's a heavy storm a-rising, see how it comes around
While we poor sailors are on the sea, a-fighting for the crown
Our officer commanded us, and him we must obey
Expecting every moment all to get cast away*

Quiet

*There are tinkers, tailors and shoemakers, lie snoring in their
sleep
While we poor souls on the ocean wide are a-ploughing through the
deep*

*There's nothing to defend us love, nor keep us from the cold
On the ocean wide, where we must bide like jolly sailors bold*

*But when the wars are over there'll be peace on every shore
We'll return to our wives and our families and the girls that we
adore*

*We will call for liquor merrily, we will spend our money free
And when the money it is all gone we'll boldly go to sea*

Unison

So, <Repeat verse 1>