

King Cotton
Mike Harding

From an album recorded during the Mike Harding One Man Show Spring Tour,
through January, February, March 1976
at the Free Trade Hall Manchester, Sheffield City Hall, Leeds University,
Lancaster University,
Bradford University, Crumpsall Cocoa Temperance Rooms, Cleckheaton Explorers
Club Annual Dinner.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=YqsqSs-rNng>

[Intro]

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e |-----7-----|-----7-----|-----0-|
B | -0-----0-----| -0-----0-----| -3-----0-|
G | ---5-----5---5-| ---5-----5---5-| -2-----0-h2-0-2-|
  x2
D |-----
7 |-----7-----| -6-----6-----| -0--h4-----4--0--2-|
A | -0-----|-----|-----0-|
E |-----|-----|-----|

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[Verse]

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Am                D                A2 Am
See how the lint flies out over the moorland.
Am                G  D/F#  Em
See how the smoke to the valley clings,
D                A2 Am
See how the slate roofs shine in the drizzle.
Am                G  D/F#  Em                A2 Am
This is the valley where Cotton is King.

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Am                D                A2 Am
See how houses cling to the hillside,
Am                G  D/F#  Em
Hear how the streets of children sing,
D                A2                Am
Wake to the scream of the factory hooter,
Am                G  D/F#  Em                A2 Am
This is the valley where Cotton is King.

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Am                D                A2 Am
See how hunger has eaten the faces,
Am                G  D/F#  Em
Tired flesh to the bones just clings,
D                A2                Am
There s dust in the lungs and the bodies are twisted,

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Am G D/F# Em A2 Am
 This is the valley where Cotton is King.

Am D A2 Am
 Sleep is washed from the broken faces,
 Am G D/F# Em
 Morning clogs on the cobbles ring,
 D A2 Am
 Off to the mill, the weavers hurry,
 Am G D/F# Em A2 Am
 This is the valley where Cotton is King.

Am D A2 Am
 Work all day to the looms hard rhythm,
 Am G D/F# Em
 Scrabble and toil till your tired bones sing,
 D A2 Am
 Then you crawl back home as the gaslights flicker,
 Am G D/F# Em A2 Am
 This is the valley where Cotton is King.

Am D A2 Am
 This is the land where children labour,
 Am G D/F# Em
 Where Life and Death mean the self same thing,
 D A2 Am
 Where many must work that the few might prosper,
 Am G D/F# Em A2 Am
 This is the valley where Cotton is King.

Am D A2 Am
 See now the clouds flying over the moorland
 Am G D/F# Em
 See how the graves to the valley sides cling
 D A2 Am
 Look at the mills now they re idle and empty
 Am G D/F# Em A2 Am
 This is the valley where cotton was king

[Outro]

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e |-----7-----|-----7-----|-----0-|
B | -0-----0-----| -0-----0-----| -3-----0-|
G | ---5-----5---5--| ---5-----5---5-| -2-----0-h2-0-----2-|
  x2
D |-----
7 |-----7-----| -6-----6-----| -0--h4-----4--0--2-|
A | -0-----|-----|-----0-|
E |-----|-----|-----|
  
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