

## Magnolias and Cotton

Magnolias are a tree that's known to last  
In sunny weather or when overcast  
Their flowers bloom in summer very fast  
To please the botany enthusiast.

In Mississippi cotton fields were vast  
With large plantations staying from the past,  
And stately mansions that were not outclassed,  
Created by a new-found upper caste.  
As years went by these owners had amassed  
Large bumper crops which then were unsurpassed.  
Continued growth was part of their forecast.

But workers' lives were in complete contrast.  
Because they were regrettably harassed,  
These slaves and families had to then outlast  
Such brutal treatment that was so miscast.  
In recent years, these trends have mostly passed  
Old points of view have clearly been recast.  
Because the Civil Rights groups were steadfast.

With Gospel music showing it can last,  
It's now a big part of each day's broadcast.



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