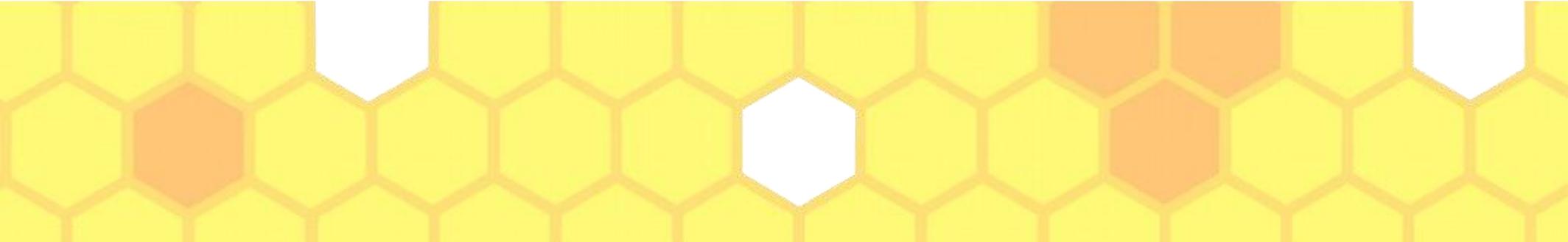




Fiona McIntosh-Varjabédian, U-Lille, Alithila

Imagining and Reshaping the Middle Ages: From Paul-Henri Mallet to Walter Scott

Panel : Shaping the Early Middle Ages in 19th-Century
Europe. International Medieval Congress. Leeds, 2019 -
Thursday 4 July 2019



Introduction

- Walter Scott and the medieval revival: what is his contribution?
- Which part of the medieval ages? A quick survey of his novels and works:
 - *Ivanhoe* (1819) 1194
 - *Quentin Durward* (1823) latter part of the 15th Century (murder of the bishop of Liege 1482, rumour of the bishop being slain during insurrection of Liege 1462)
 - *Tales of the Crusaders 1, The Betrothed*, (1825), reign of Henry II, 1187

-*Chronicles of the Canongate*, 2nd series, *The Fair Maid of Perth*, (1828) Combat on the North Inch 1396, Death of the Duke of Rothesay, David Stuart 1402, reign of Robert III

-*Anne of Geierstein* (1829) 1471-1477

-*Tales of my Landlord*, 4th series, *Count Robert of Paris*, (1831) 1st Crusade, (1095–1099)

-*Tales of my Landlord*, 4th series, *Castle Dangerous*, (1831) Around 1306, struggle for the Scottish crown between Edward I (Malleus Scottorum) and Robert Bruce

-1815–1824: *Essays on Chivalry, Romance, (and Drama)*

Inspired by John Ericsson, William Robertson and Pierre

Particularity of Scott's medievalism

Gothic tropes

Mary Robinson (1758 – 1800)
Vancenza; or, the Dangers of Credulity, 1792, 15th C Spain

Clara Reeve (1729 – 1807, *The Old English Baron*, 1778 (In the minority of Henry VIth, John Duke of Bedford, Regent of France, circa 1430)

Antiquarian interests

Joseph Strutt (1749 – 1802)

Dresses and Habits of the English People (2 vols. 1796–1799)
Sports and Pastimes of the People of England (1801)
Queenhoop Hall, 1808, 15th C

Dedicatory epistle in *Ivanhoe*...

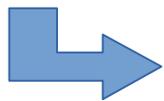
Never take Scott at face value

- Reasons given to Strutt's failure:
 - “The late ingenious Mr Strutt, in his romance of Queen-Hoo-Hall, acted upon another principle; and in distinguishing between what was ancient and modern, forgot, as it appears to me, that extensive neutral ground, the large proportion, that is, of manners and sentiments which are common to us and to our ancestors, having been handed down unaltered from them to us, or which, arising out of the principles of our common nature, must have existed alike in either state of society. In this manner, a man of talent, and of great antiquarian erudition, limited the popularity of his work, by excluding from it every thing which was not sufficiently obsolete to be altogether forgotten and unintelligible.”
 - Was Queen-Hoo-Hall really too historical?

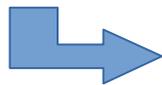


Reflections on Scott's rewriting Strutt

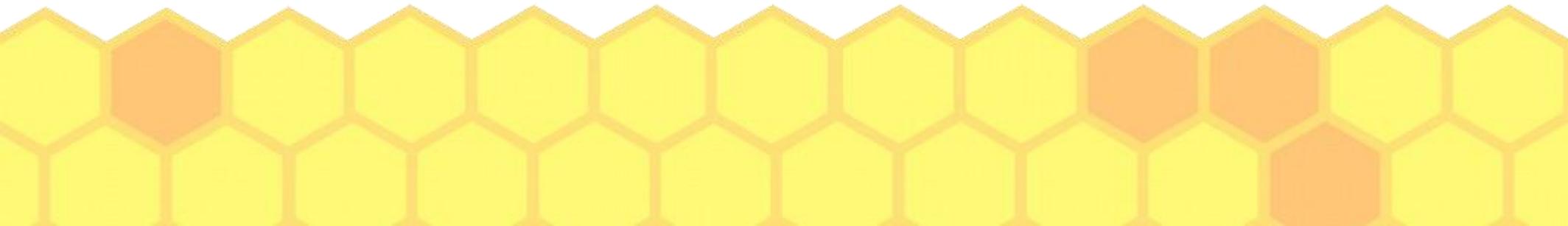
- The importance of dress
- The motive of the tournament or of May games (see *Old Mortality*)
- Strutt and the parodic reenactment of Robin Hood, Maid Marian and Friar Tuck
- Strutt's verbose dialogues



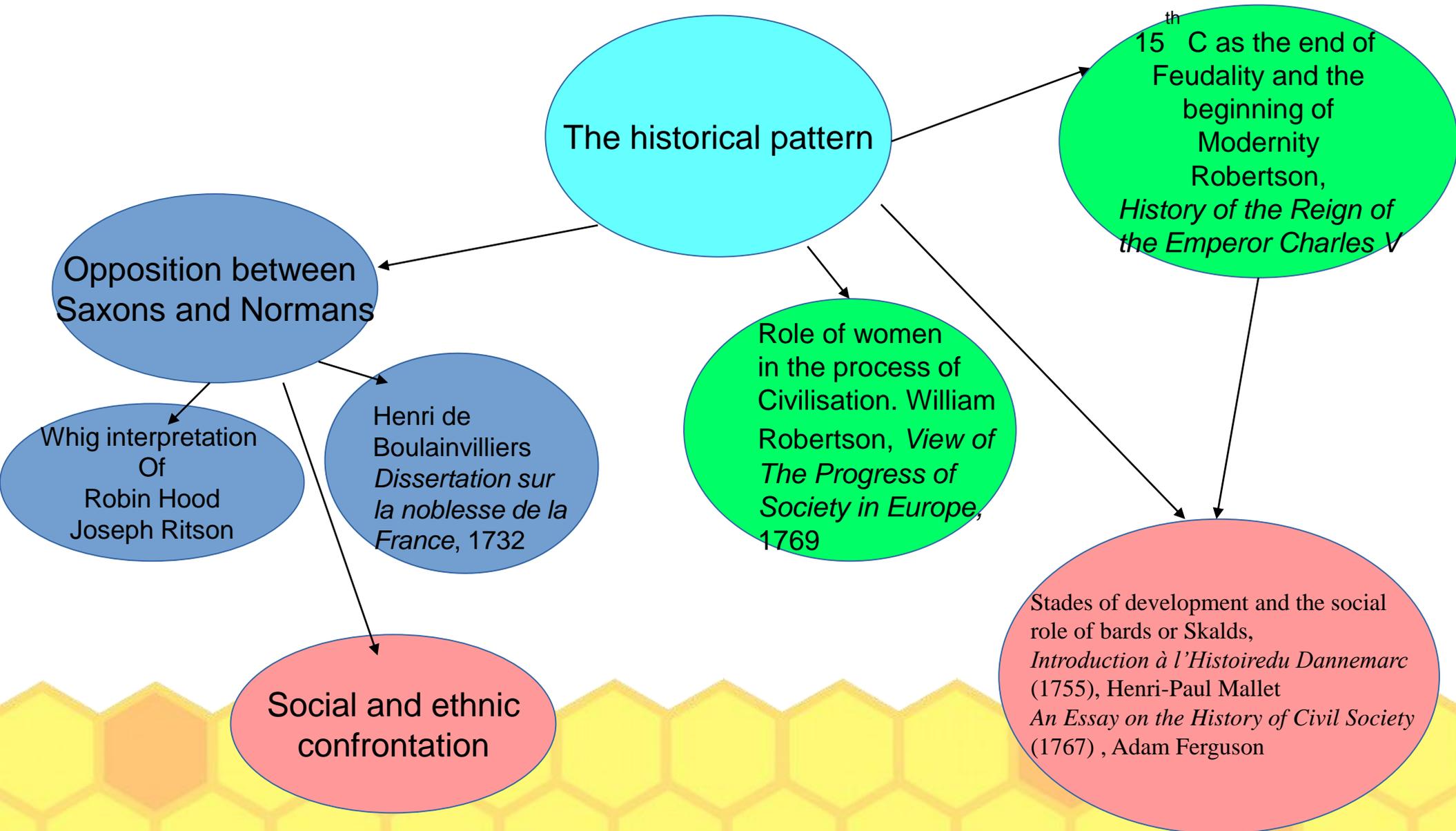
Manners + confrontation of different behaviours,
ways of thinking, status



Dynamic structure of the plot and of
the historical pattern



So what is in fact missing?



Augustin Thierry's and Jules Michelet's debts

