

William Gilmore Simms

The Most Important Author You've Never Heard Of

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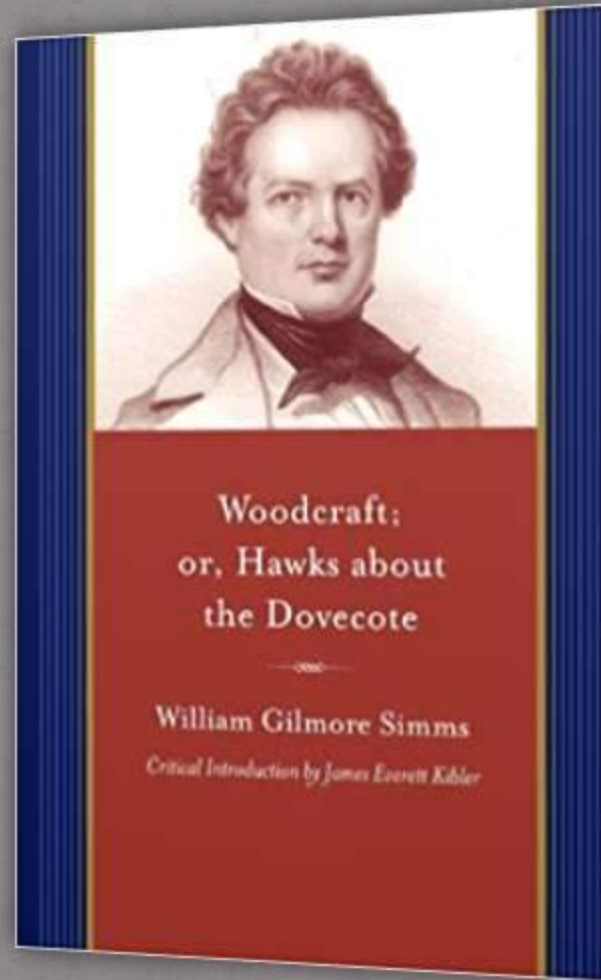


Woodcraft

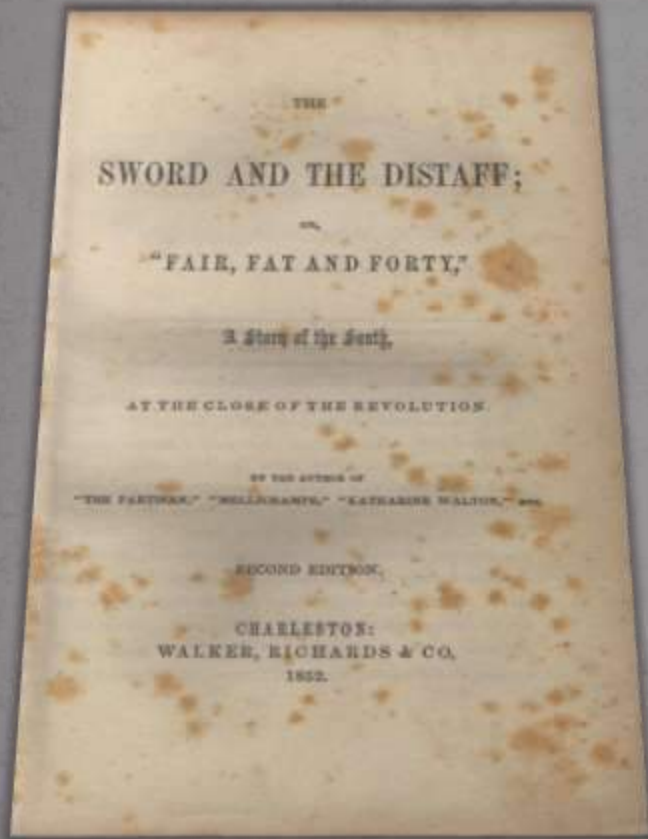
or, Hawks About the Dovecote

Simms's Masterpiece

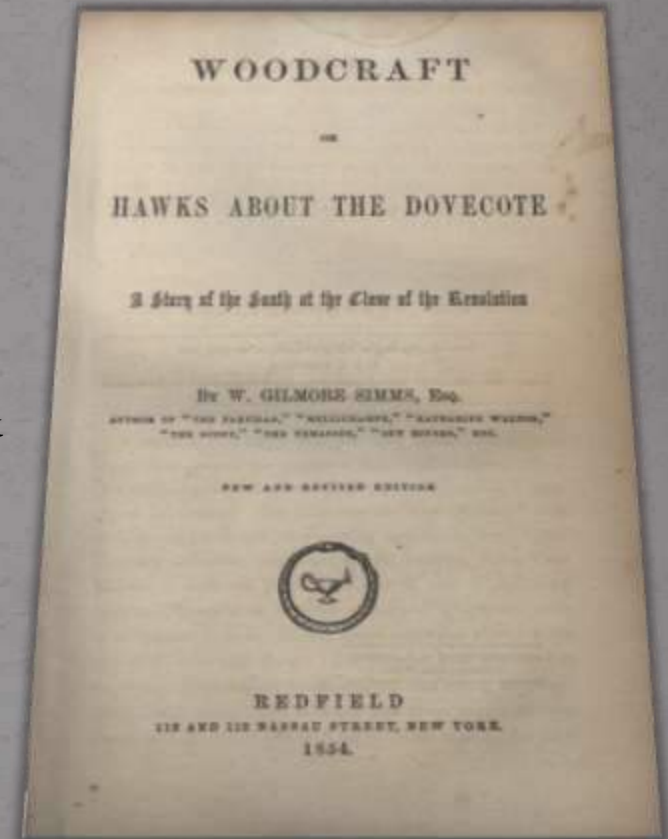
- Capstone Work in the Revolutionary Romance Series
- Multi-Thematic, Multi-
Generic Novel
- Faulknerian Complexity
- Burgeoning Realism
- Defies Summary



Simms's Masterpiece



- Masculine & Feminine Balance
- War & Peace
- Progress & Tradition
- Indolence & Industry
- Southern Virtue & Outsider Vice
- -isms & -ologies
- Past & Present
- Plantation & Community



Revolutionary War Series

- *The Partisan (1835)*
- *Mellichampe (1836)*
- *The Kinsmen/The Scout (1841)*
- *Katharine Walton (1850)*
- *Woodcraft (1852)*
- *The Forayers (1855)*
- *Eutaw (1856)*
- *Joscelyn (1867)*
- *Joscelyn (1775)*
 - *Beginning of war in backcountry*
- *The Partisan (1780)*
 - *Battle of Camden*
- *Mellichampe (1780-81)*
 - *Aftermath of Camden*
- *The Kinsmen/The Scout (1781)*
 - *Battle of Hobkirk's Hill*
- *Katharine Walton (1781)*
 - *Life in Occupied Charleston*
- *The Forayers (1781)*
 - *British retreat from Ninety-Six*
- *Eutaw (1781)*
 - *Battle of Eutaw Springs*
- *Woodcraft (1782-83)*
 - *Close of war and aftermath*

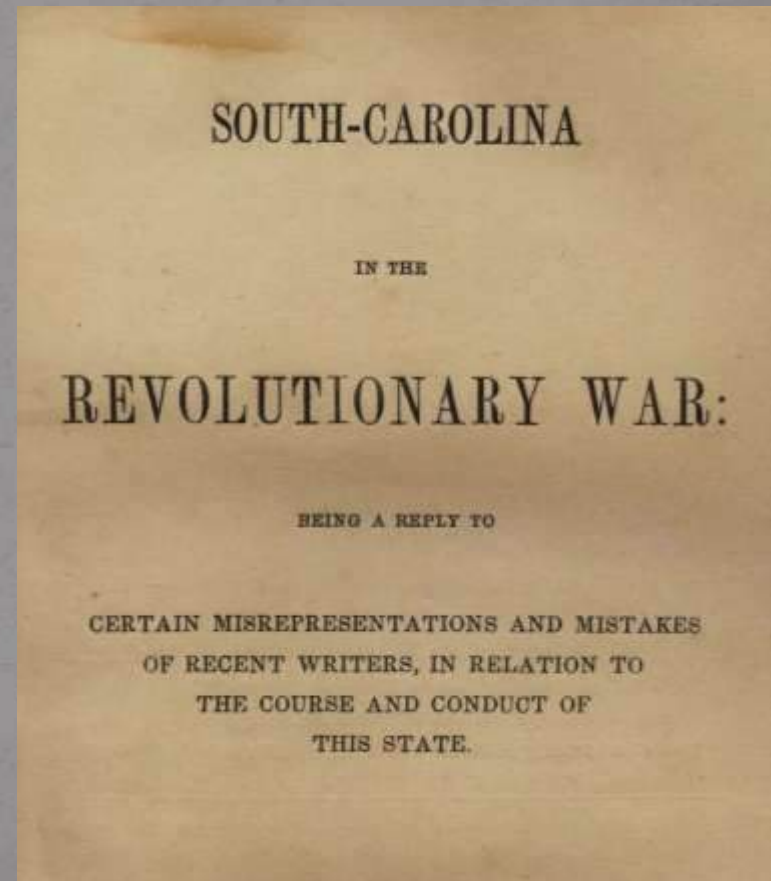
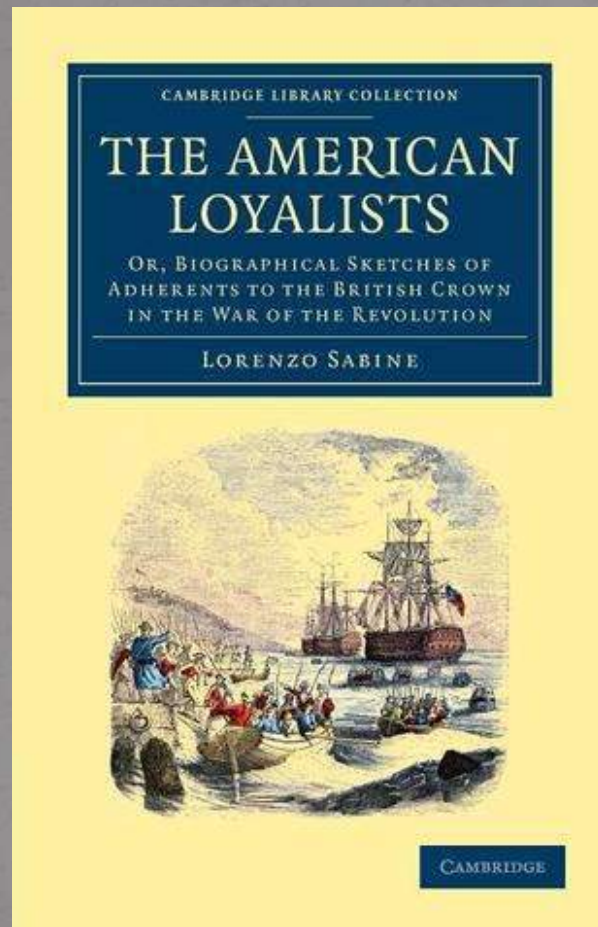


Revolutionary Works

- *The Army Correspondence of Colonel John Laurens*
- *Eutaw*
- *The Forayers*
- *The History of South Carolina*
- *Joscelyn*
- *Katharine Walton*
- *The Kinsmen (The Scout)*
- *The Life of Francis Marion*
- *The Life of Nathaniel Green*
- *Mellichampe*
- *Monody, on The Death of Gen. Charles Cotesworth Pinckney*
- *The Partisan*
- *South Carolina in the Revolutionary War*
- *Woodcraft*

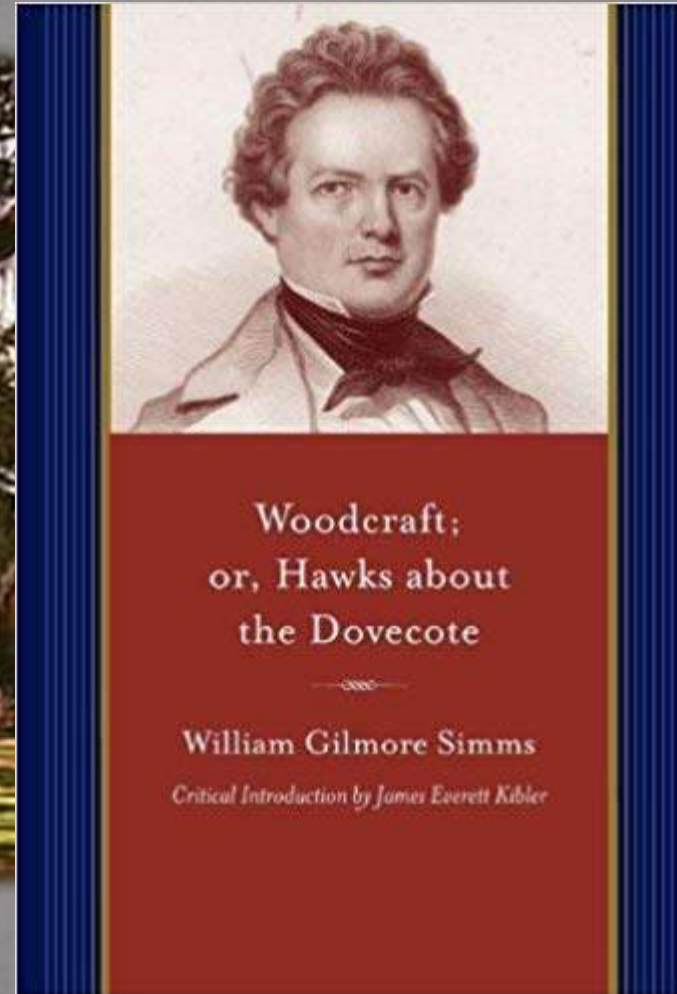


Sabine vs. Simms



An Anti-Tom Novel?

- *The Planter's Northern Bride* (Caroline Lee Hentz)
- *Aunt Phillis's Cabin; or, Southern Life As It Is* (Mary Henderson Eastman)
- *Life at the South; or, Uncle Tom's Cabin As It Is* (W. L. G. Smith)
- *Uncle Robin in His Cabin in Virginia, and Tom Without One in Boston* (J. W. Page)
- *The Lofty and the Lowly; or, Good in All and None All-Good* (Maria J. McIntosh)



An Anti-Tom Novel?

“...it is probably as good an answer to Mrs. Stowe as has been published...”

(Simms to Hammond, Dec. 15, 1852)

Timeline of *Uncle Tom's Cabin* & *Woodcraft*

- *UTC* begins serial publication
- Simms first reads Joseph Johnson
- *UTC*: First appearance of Simon Legree
- *Woodcraft* begins serial publication
- *UTC*: First Edition published
- *UTC* ends serial publication
- *Woodcraft*: First Edition published
- *Woodcraft* ends serial publication

June 1851

Feb 1852

Nov 1852



An Anti-Tom Novel?

“...it is probably as good an answer to Mrs. Stowe as has been published...”

(Simms to Hammond, Dec. 15, 1852)

An Anti-Tom Novel?

“There is not a scribbler of scrap or sonnet in the State, Magazine or Newspaper Editor, who does not hate to hear my name. You would be surprised at the proofs of this daily given me. My last Book, ‘The Sword & Distaff’ has not been named by a single Carolina Press, though it is probably as good an answer to Mrs. Stowe as has been published. Recently, the N.Y. Historical Society appointed me with Bancroft, Everett, Irving, to deliver a course of Lectures in N.Y. The annunciation was made in the newspapers. In the Charleston papers, these names were given with the omission of mine. These things occur daily.”

(Simms to Hammond, Dec. 15, 1852)

Simms's Masterpiece



Questions?

Woodcraft;
or, Hawks About the Dovecote

See You Next Week!

Todd Hagstette
University of South Carolina Aiken