

Text Reuse and Eighteenth-Century Histories of England

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Quantifying sources in Hume's History

- What kind of history is Hume's *History of England*?
- Is it an impartial account or is it part of a political project?
- To what extent was it influenced by seventeenth century Royalist authors?
- What does it mean in terms of Hume being a "Whig" or a "Tory"?

- The consensus is that Hume's use of Royalist sources (emphasised more recently by MacGillivray and Okie) in the Stuart volumes left a crucial mark on his historical project.
- Mark Spencer notes, Hume did not only copy from Royalists or Tories.

Sources

- ESTC
- ECCO
- Paul de Rapin (Whig), *History of England*, 15 vols., 1726-32.
- William Guthrie (Court Whig), *History of Great Britain*, 3 vols., 1744-1751.
- Thomas Carte (Jacobite) , *General History of England*, 4 vols., 1747-1755.
- David Hume (?), *History of England*, 8 vols., 1778. (1st edition 1754-61)

Methods

- Text reuse detection
- BLAST -bioanalysis software
- ~130,000 clusters intersecting Hume's *History* alone (Whole ECCO has millions of clusters)
- ~150 - 3000 characters / reuse fragment

“Boscobel: or, the compleat history of His Sacred Majesty's most miraculous preservation after the battle of Worcester, which was fought Sept. 3, ...” (1660), Blount, Thomas, 1618-1679

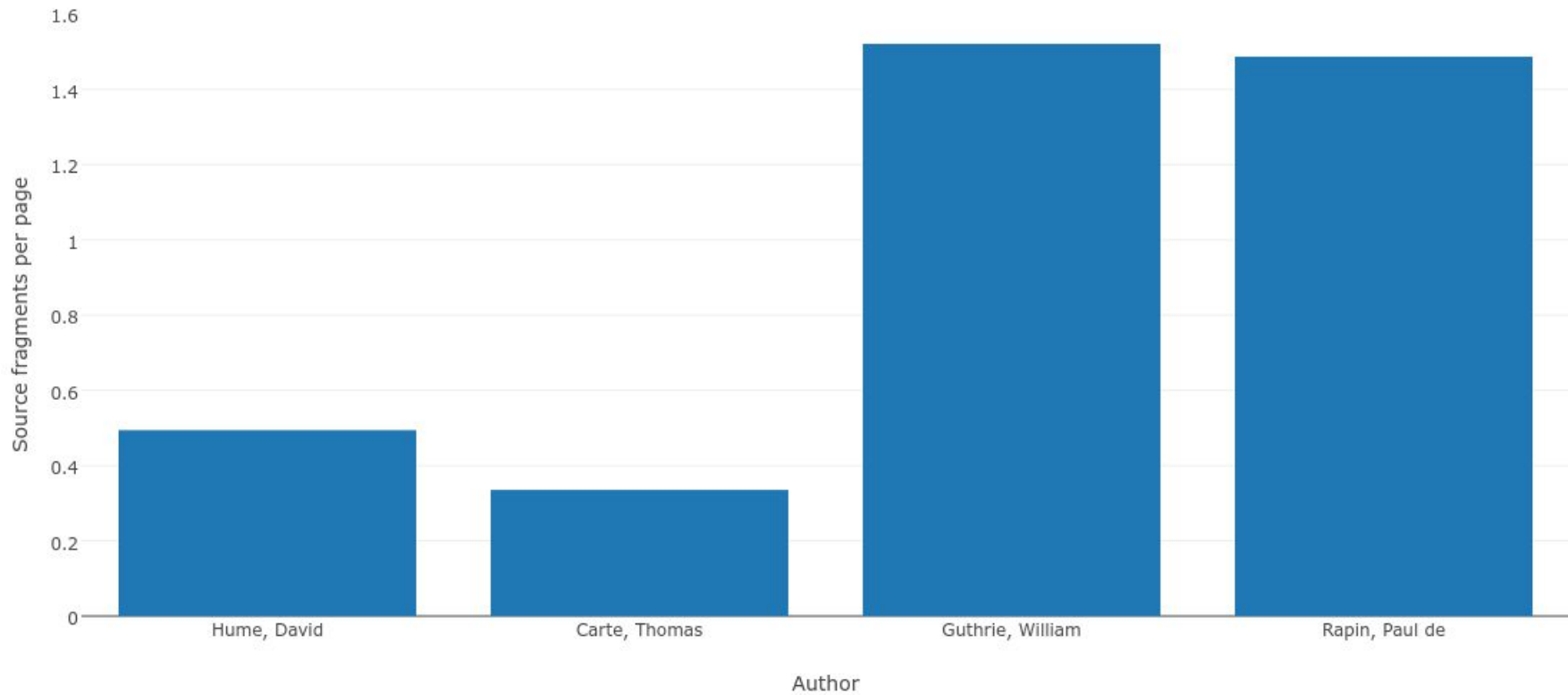
“broad pieces to the king, judging they would be necessary to him in his present condition; for he durfi carry no money about him in his mean garb and short cut hair, except about ten or twelve Lhillings in silver. Windham hereupon went to Lime, and spoke with Elef- don about hiring a lhip, which he undertook; but not till he was told, it was for His Ma- jefty's transportation. During the four or five dayv\” which the King this first time staid at Windham's, where he was known by most of the family, e heard the bells ring, and feeing a company got to- gether in the church-yard, which wa4 very near the” [...]

A general history of England. Containing an Account of the first Inhabitants of the Country, and the Transactions in it, from the earliest ... (1754) Carte, Thomas, 1686-1754

" 300 broad pieces to the king, judging they would be necefhy for him in his prefelit condition; for he durst carry no money about him in his mean garb and his short cut hair, ex- cept about ten or twelve shillings in silver. Windham hereupon went to Lyme, and 1poke to Elefi'on about hiring a lhip, which he undertook: but not till he was told, it was for his majety's transportation. During the four or five days, which the king, this sirss time, flaid at Windam's (where he was known to most of the fa- mily) he heard the bells ring, and feeing a company got together in the church- yard, which was very near the” [...]

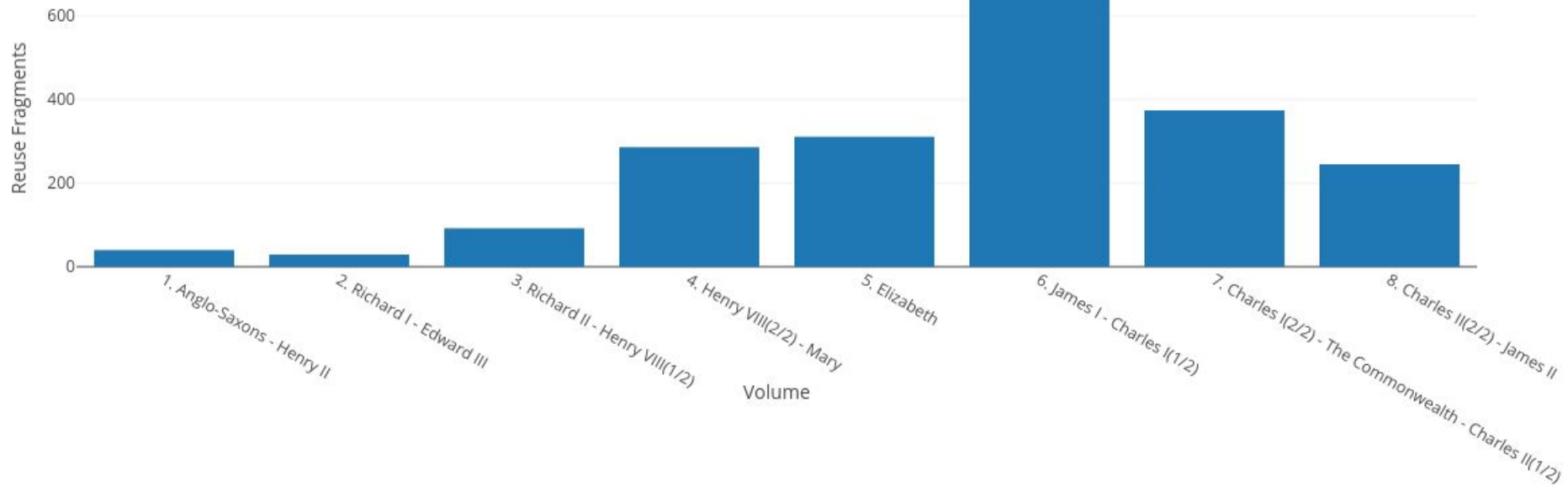
Composition of the *Histories* in terms of
references

Source Fragments per Octavo Page

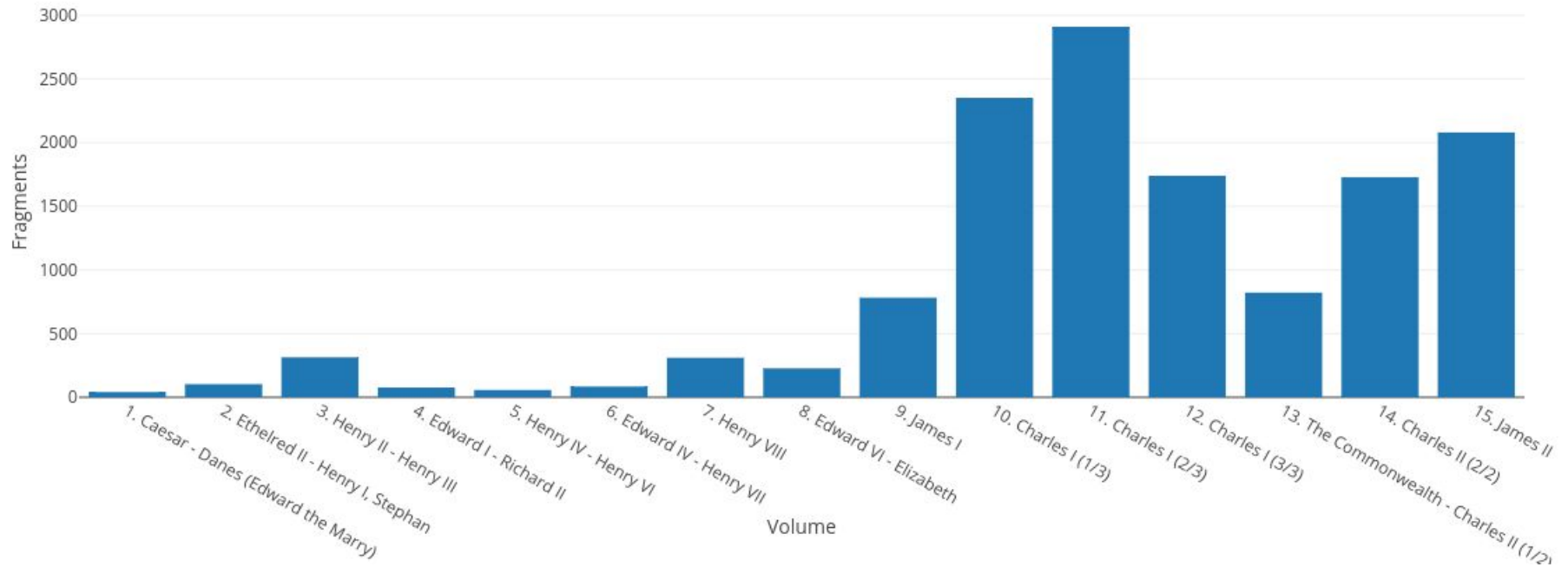


Change in text reuse in *Histories*, over volumes, with high point in the volumes covering the English Civil War

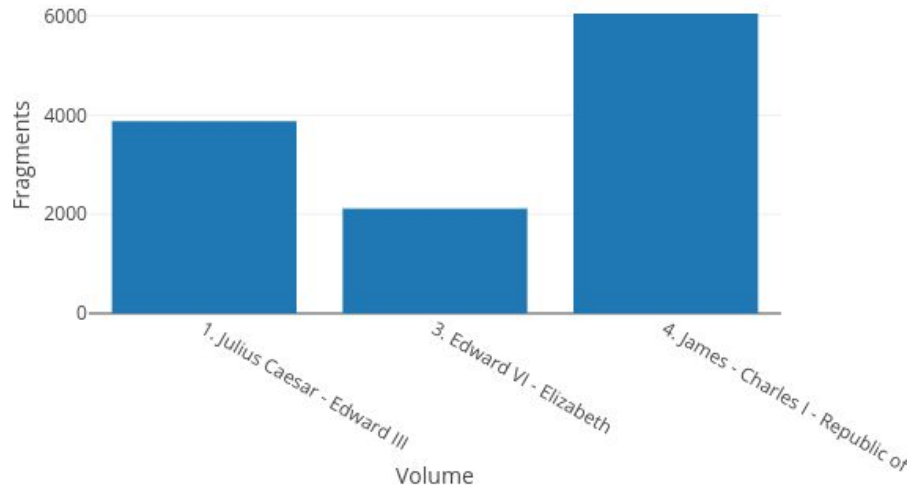
Hume's History of England, found source fragments by volume



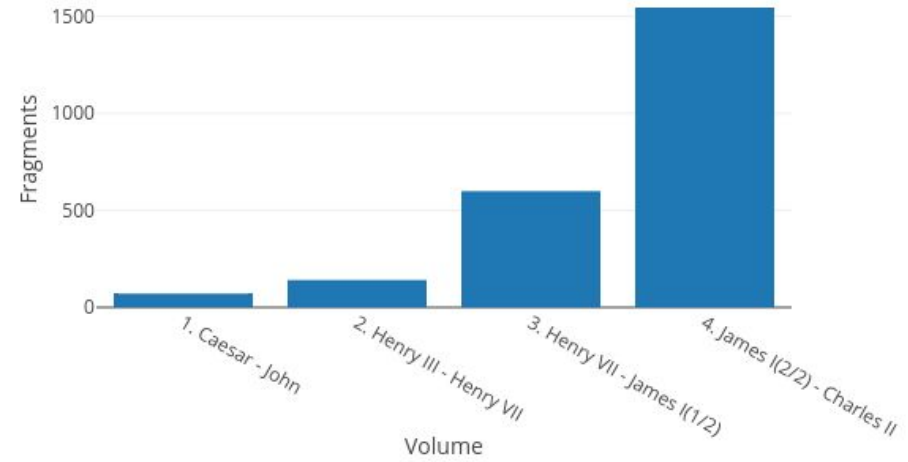
Rapin sources by volume



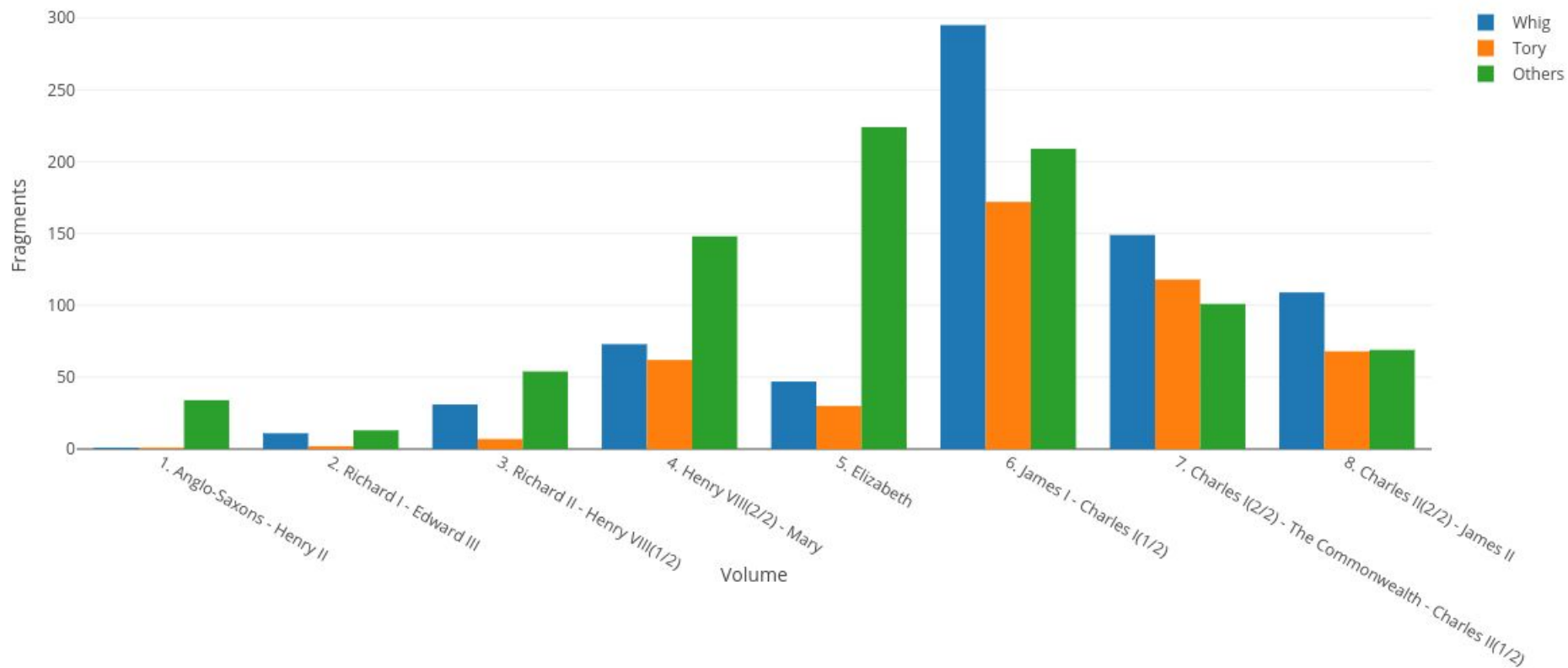
Guthrie, Sources by volume



Carte, Sources by volume

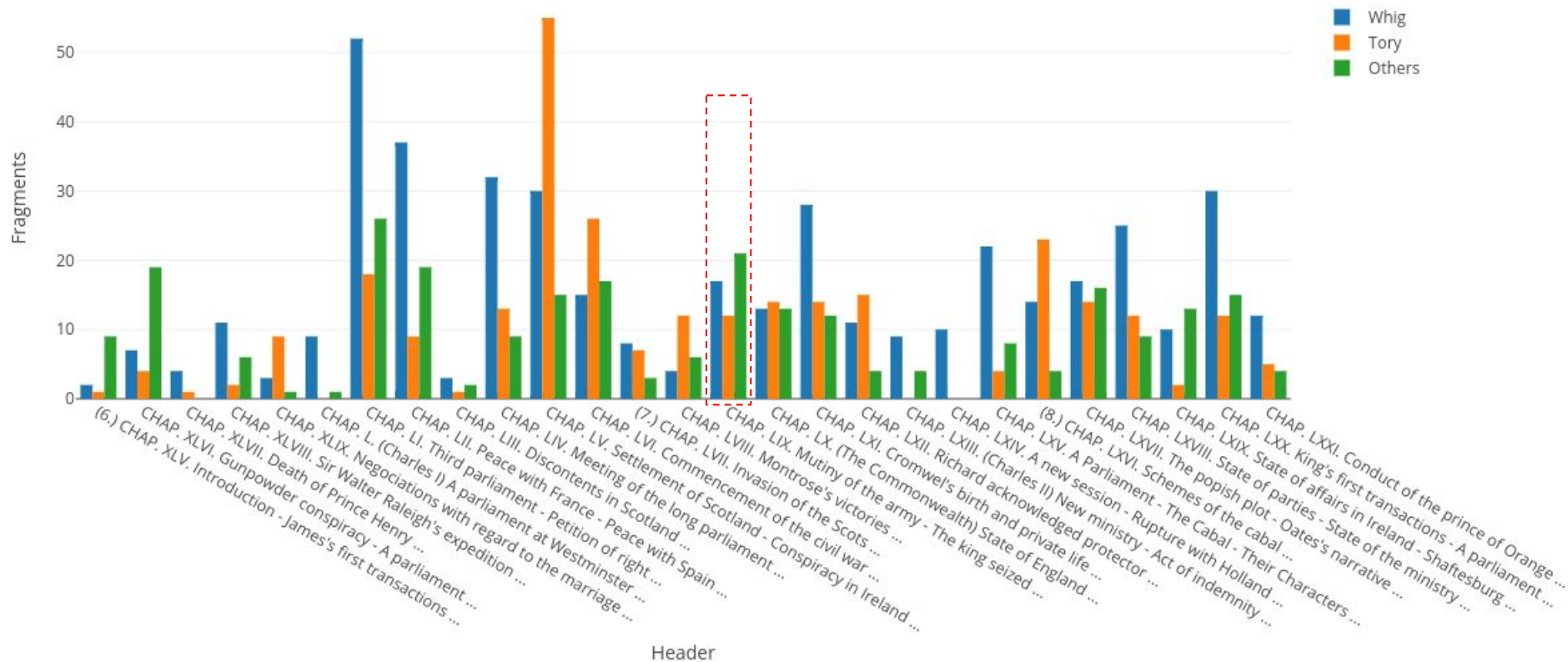


Hume's History of England - Sources by volume by political affiliation

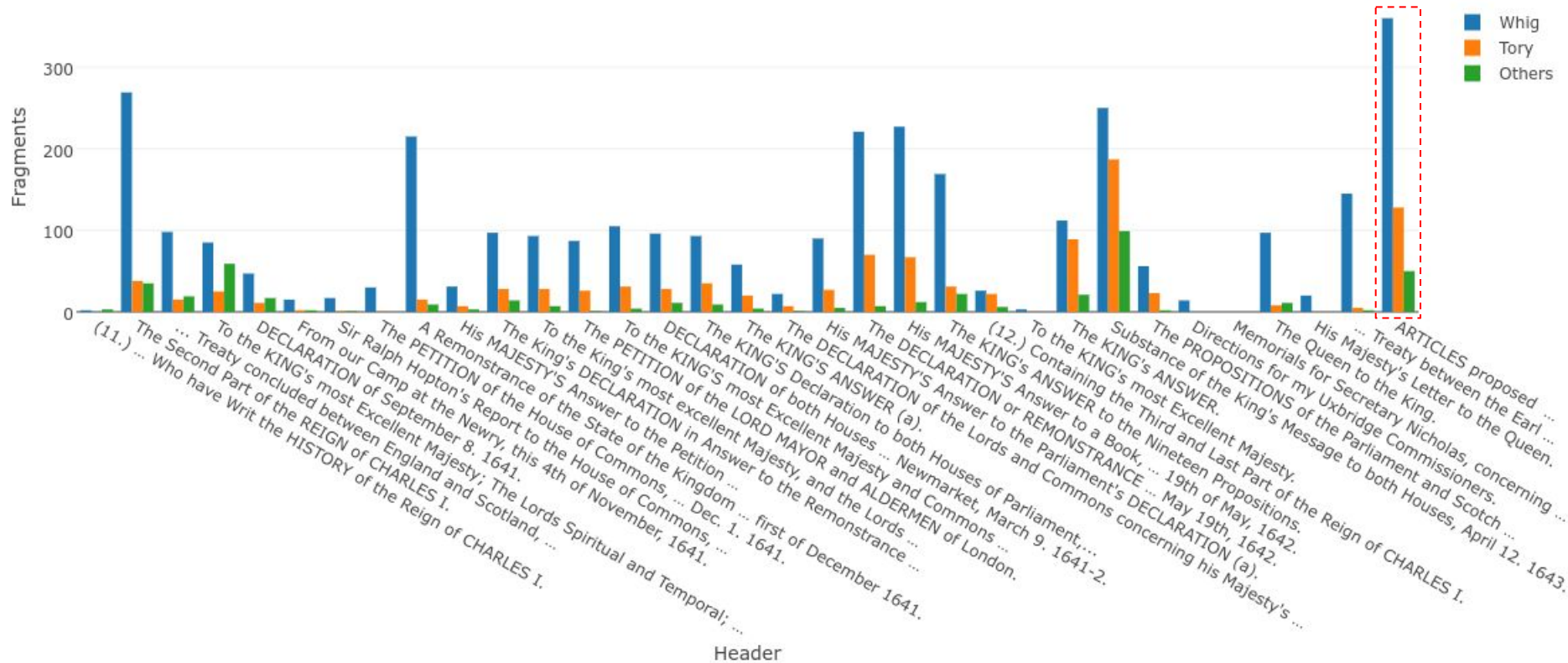


A closer look at the sources in volumes covering the Civil War (1642–1651) and Charles I's execution (1649)

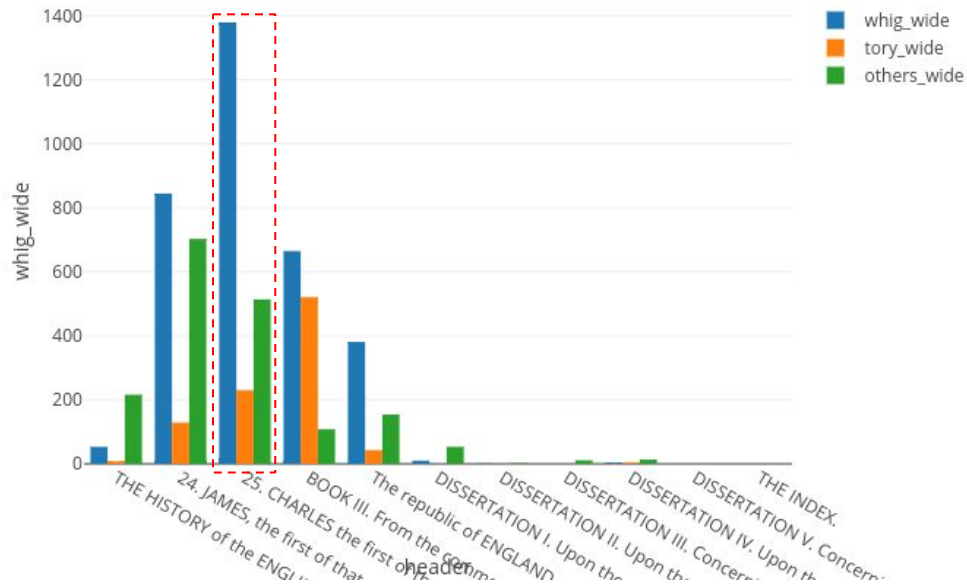
Hume's History, (vols. 6-8) Source political affiliation by header



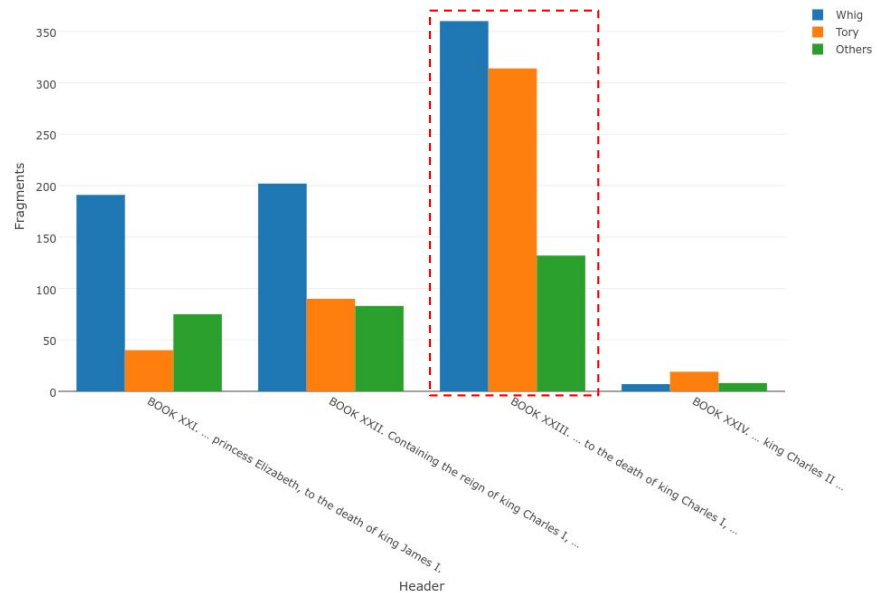
Rapin's History (vols. 11-12), Source political affiliation by headers



Guthrie vol 4 Chapter by Chapter political hits



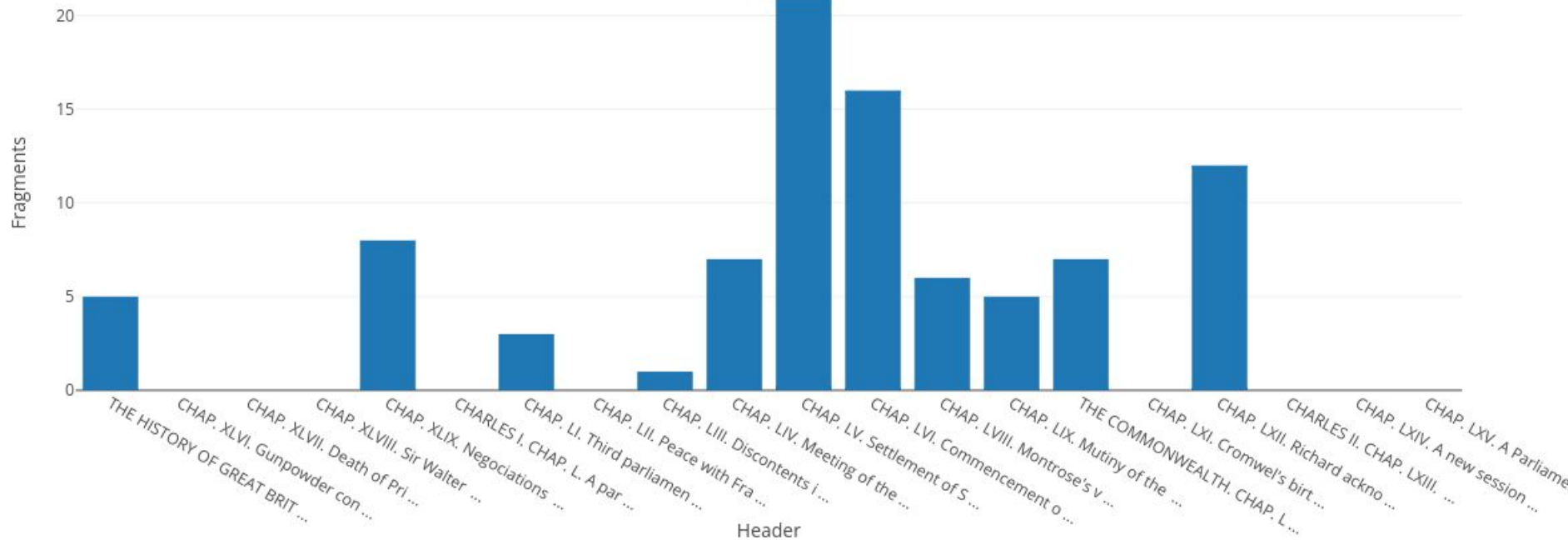
Carte's History vol. 4, Source political affiliation by headers



Charles I execution and Hume's
impartiality

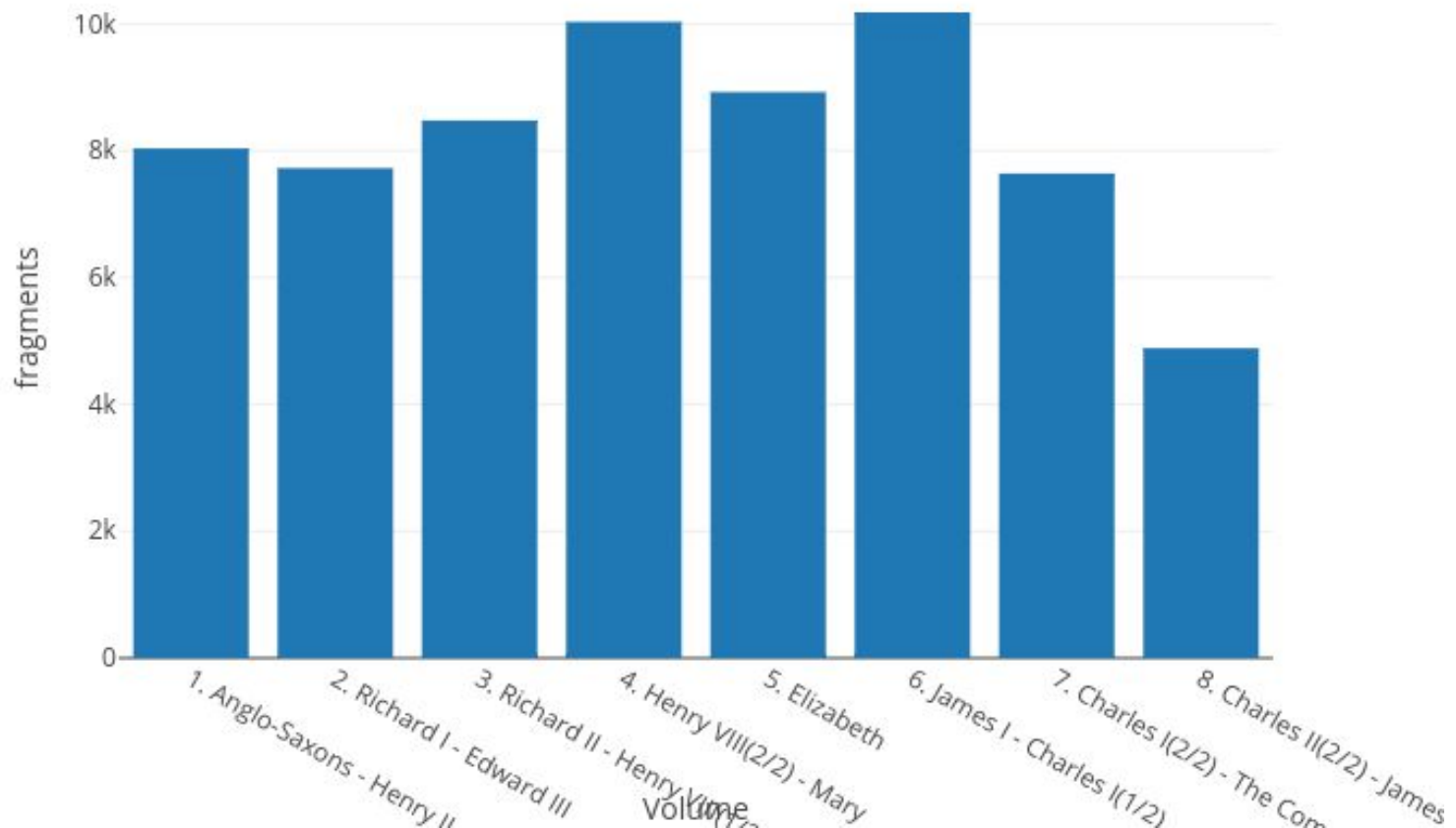
Rushworth, John (1612-1690)	188
Clarendon, Edward Hyde (1609-1674)	101
Thoyras, Rapin (1661-1725)	98
Burnet, Gilbert (1643-1715)	79
Echard, Laurence (1670-1730)	54
Rymer, Thomas (1641-1713)	51
Guthrie, William (1708-1770)	45
Whitlocke, Bulstrode (1605-NA)	38
Jones, David (1676-1720)	38
Charles, (1600-1649)	35
Carte, Thomas (1686-1754)	33
Baker, Richard (1568-1645)	29
Bacon, Francis (1561-1626)	28
Warner, Ferdinando (1703-1768)	28

Clarendon as source in Hume's History (vols 6-7)

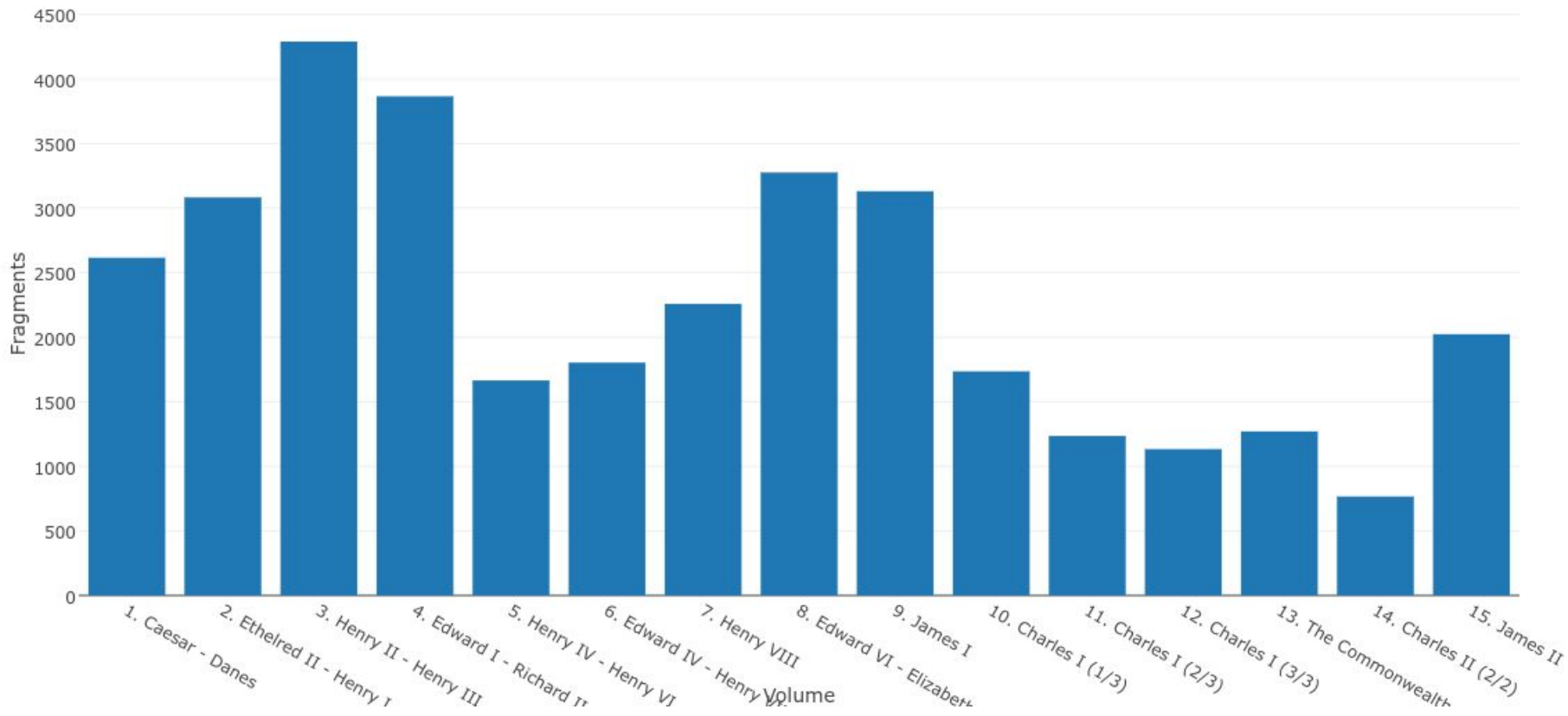


Influence on later Histories

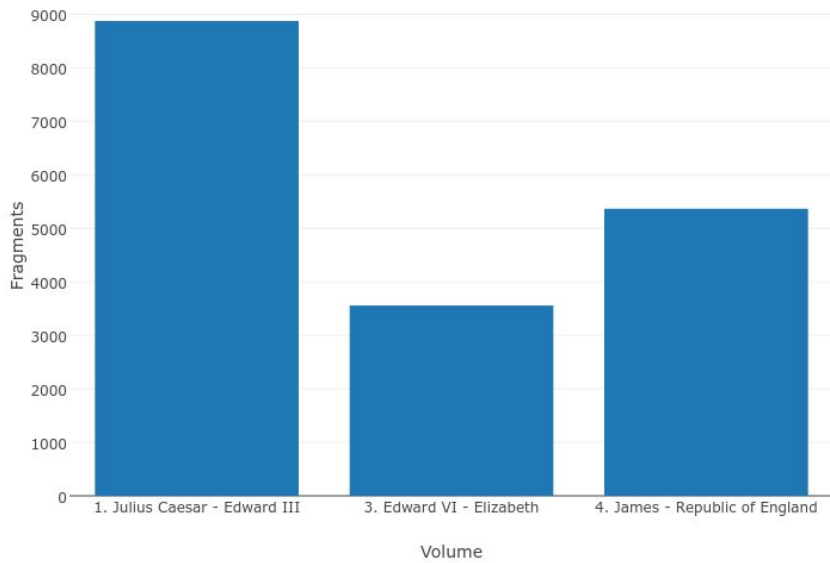
Hume reuses by volume



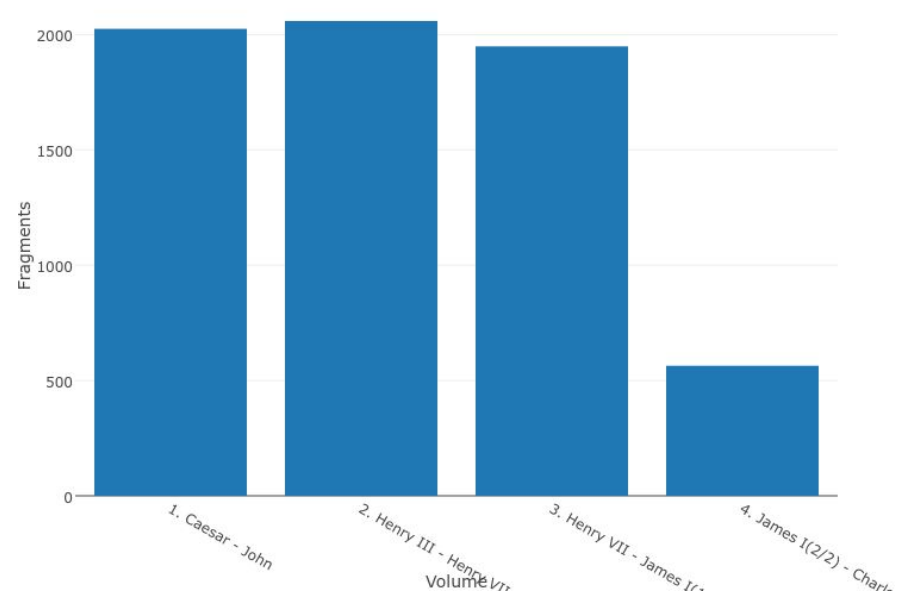
Rapin's History reused by others



Guthrie's History reused by others



Carte's History reused by others



Conclusions

- Regarding DH and History
 - show how dh methods can open new approaches to historiography
 - mapping intertextual connections on this level hasn't been done
 - can reveal previously unknown or overlooked influences
- Hume as historian, Historiography
 - nullify persistent claims of Hume's Toryism
 - can be refined to create author's "fingerprint" of source use