

author dissents from certain positions taken by Dr. Westlake in his treatise on "Private International Law;" then to Professor Dicey's Preface, where he makes a general statement concerning such disagreement; and finally to Dr. Westlake's criticism of the former's book, and its doctrine, in the October number of the *Law Quarterly*. Such an unswerving adherence to the rule of *noblesse oblige* is as cheering as it is rare.

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Mr. Crackanthorpe, in his valuable paper on the "Uses of Legal History," read before the American Bar Association in August last, touches upon the evident disinclination of Sir Frederick Pollock and Dr. Maitland to concede in their "History of English Law," that the Roman law was at any time introduced into England as a dominant system of jurisprudence; and he proceeds, very amiably and adroitly, to point out from their own admissions how paramount was its influence in that country at various epochs, reaching from the eighth or ninth century to the reign of Henry III., when a large proportion of its principles **became** woven into the web of the Common Law, chiefly through the instrumentality of Bracton. Besides these admissions (to be found in the Introduction, pp. xxxi. to xxxv.; in Chap. III. at pp. 55, 56, 72, 78, 80, 87; and in Chaps. IV., V., VI., and VII., *passim*) in Messrs. Pollock & Maitland's History which make to the contrary of their contention, we would direct attention to the following statement by Dr. Maitland, extra such work, namely, in his essay on "Legal History," in Traill's "Social England," p. 173. Speaking of the social progress of the Saxon period he says, "As a matter of fact we had not to work out our own civilization; we could adopt results already attained in the ancient world. For example, we did not invent the art of writing, we adopted it; we did not invent our alphabet, we took the Roman. And so again—to come nearer to our law—we borrowed or inherited from the old world the written legal document, the written conveyance, the will. The written conveyance was introduced along with Christianity. . . . From the days of Æthelbert onwards English law was under the influence of so much of the Roman law as