

NEWS DEPARTMENT.

The Maitland Memorial.

Notice has been received in this state of a movement to establish a memorial to the late Professor Frederic William Maitland of Cambridge University, England. The committee appointed to raise funds for this purpose includes the Lord Chief Justice of England and many of the most noted lawyers, historians and economists of Great Britain, as well as a number of distinguished professors and publicists in France, Germany and the United States. Among the Americans appointed are Joseph H. Choate, Justice Oliver Wendell Holmes, Professor Nathan Abbott of Columbia (formerly of Stanford) and Dean Ames and Professor Gross of Harvard. More than two thousand pounds has already been promised. A small part of this amount will go to defray the expense of a bust of professor Maitland and the remainder will constitute a memorial fund for the promotion of research and construction in legal history at Cambridge.

The success which is attending the movement serves as an index to the respect with which the name and labors of the deceased professor are regarded on both sides of the Atlantic. He is remembered by Cambridge men for his remarkable ability to inspire students with a love for the study of early English law. Those who met him when he visited the United States recall his kindness and genial nature. But it was the genius for investigation shown in his works on the medieval English law and constitution which gained for him his international reputation. From 1884, when, after several years' practice as a barrister, he became an instructor in his alma mater, until his death in 1906, he was a prolific author and editor. His editions of English plea rolls have made possible to the ordinary student an intimate acquaintance with procedure in English courts of the twelfth and thirteenth centuries. His volume entitled "Domesday Book and Beyond" did more to explain English institutions in the Anglo-Saxon period than any other work for nearly seventy-five years, and his "History of the English Law," written in co-operation with Sir Frederick Pollock, stands beside the work of Bishop Stubbs as an indispensable guide. Since much of the interest and research in early English constitutional history at the present time springs from the impulse given by Frederic William Maitland, his memorial will interest students of Anglo-Saxon legal institutions in all lands.