AURORA, AHOU!

RETURN OF MAWSON'S BOAT

EXPECTED AT PORT ADELAIDE TO-DAY

"ALL WELL ON BOARD."

February 25, 8.45 p.m.

Cape Borda reports Dr. Mawson's exploring ship Aurora from Antarctic to Adelaide. All well on board.

The above unexpected intimation of the Aurora's homeward arrival shortly after 8 o'clock last night, the announcement in the city came as a great surprise, as the vessel was not expected for some days yet. The news of passing Borda indicates that she will arrive at the Semaphore about daybreak, and consequently she may be expected to cast anchor at Port Adelaide shortly after.

SIGHTED AT SEA

The Semaphore Signal Station has received a report from the barque Archibald Russell that she passed the expeditionary vessel Aurora 93 days out from the Antarctic bound for Adelaide. She wished to be reported all well. Her position was latitude 59 degrees 3 minutes south, longitude 125 degrees 51 minutes east, on February 21.

DEPUTY-GOVERNOR SURPRISED.

Immediately upon receipt of the message from Cape Borda a representative of "The Daily Herald" got into communication with the Deputy-Governor (Sir Samuel Way). The Chief Justice was astonished to receive the news, and expressed his regret at the fact that too little time was left to make arrangements for the reception of the homeward-bound Antarctic explorers. He had received no previous information of the fact that the Aurora had left the land of snows far behind and was at that moment proceeding up the gulf. "I shall do all I can to get them, and Dr. Mawson's return march alone to his base camp, and to make arrangements for his voyage to the Antarctic." The expedition, it will be recalled, has not escaped paying the human toll exacted from those who seek to enter the white realms of the Polar regions. In the Antarctic, during the summer season of 1912-13 Dr. Mawson, Dr. Mertz (a Swiss man of science), and Lieutenant Nimnius engaged in a trial journey in the course of which Dr. Mertz and Lieutenant Nimnius fell down a crevasse. A sleigh load of provisions was left for their return. The expedition was destined to become a great scientific enterprise and involved the民国s of scientists and officers who had been disengaged from their customary duties to make the same thing. For the first time the expedition had been well equipped with instruments for the successful prosecution of scientific investigations in the unknown coast running through a quarter of the year. The result of the expedition may have been less than was anticipated, but the scientific aid requisite to enable him, not, indeed, to hang his hat at the South Pole, but to achieve the final and complete enterprise was attended with difficulties and perils, though it is left, of course, for the future to determine the success or failure. It seems not to have been present in Lieutenant Nimnius, if it was it fell him in the dreadful January 14 when he fell into a crevasse while sleighing. Dr. Mawson himself had a narrow escape from a fate similar to that of his colleague, and through the sheer inaccessibility of the Aurora's effecting their deliverance.