ARIVAL OF PROFESSOR BENSLOW

Mr. E. Bently, who has been recently appointed as Professor of Classics at the University, arrived in the colony on Tuesday morning by the mail steamer 'Flora.' Mr. Bently, who is an M.A. of Cambridge, is a comparatively young man, but has been considered capable of distinction from a number of other candidates. Among the applications for the appointment, there were many from public schools, and some from private candidates. Mr. Bently is said to have a great and rather above the usual height, but a moral character with which Mr. Bently's application is associated. He did not seem to have a pronounced manner, and may possess the ability to make a good impression in any way. He is said to have been well versed in all the subjects of his own work, and to have a good knowledge of logic and of the various languages in which he has written.

Professor Bently informed me that he has not been to Adelaide before, and that he has been frequently in America, and has been acquainted with many of the Universities of the United States. He has, however, visited both Melbourne and Sydney, and has been with some of the professors there. "It is very interesting," he said, "to notice the difference there is between the Universities in different countries. I studied for two years in Germany, and was a post for a short time in Chicago. I was well acquainted with English Universities, and found that I have been able to give more to a professor who wishes to pursue a subject further. There is a tendency, I think, for men to specialise, and I think it is carried far too far in this country. The new Professor has secured a good deal of the University Extension movement both in England and Scotland, and it is far as it is at present developed he does not hold the highest rank for it. On this subject he said, "I agree with a great deal that was said by a writer in a recent number of the Nineteenth Century. That article was rather pathetic, but I think it is good for the good of the cause. The only real difficulty is, I think, in the way of the reforms of late years. They are not by any means ultra-conservative, but it must be remembered that the constitution of Oxford and Cambridge is like the British Constitution, and causes them to be regarded with a certain amount of suspicion. However, I think that the Universities are the growth of centuries, and there is much that is extremely liberal in them if they are judged by any other standard. This has to be remembered in relation to the admission of women into the Universities. At present they can receive into the University some of the examinations. The only difference between them and the men is that the women do not get a nominal degree conferred upon them, but, instead, are awarded a certificate. There are many states that have passed certain examinations, and would be awarded degrees if they were men. This certificate, by the way, is more than we shall go to show that they hold a degree. It is, however, more than the sign of attainment, and does not mean something entirely different. A man holding a degree of M.A. without a certificate, for instance, is entitled to a vote for Parliament, and is a member of a corporate body having certain privileges. It would complete matters if women were admitted to prefer the privileges, unless the constitution of the Universities were reformed. If women desire the university, and not the mere honour of the degree, they can obtain it. The University does not keep lists of women's names under the lists of the men, and they are entitled to all the degrees to which they are entitled. Mr. Bently concluded by remarking that women, as far as recognition is concerned, have shown themselves to be equal to men, but we were not ready to see what they would be if they were not in their original work. Mr. Bently spent a few months in Europe before coming to South Australia.