

To Admiral Sir Thomas Baker

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Capt Onslow's Report
to Ad^r Baker

Montevideo 19th Jan^y 1833.



I have the honor to report, for your information, that H. M. Sloop under my command, arrived at Port Egmont, West Falkland on the 20th December 1832 and found the ruins of our settlement on Saunders Island.

Not finding any inhabitants on Saunders Island or in the vicinity of the harbour, I caused a signal post to be erected, and repaired what appeared to me to have been Fort George; whilst in port the union was hoisted daily at the fort, and I left the following inscription on a board; Visited by H. M. Sloop "Clio" for the purpose of exercising the right of sovereignty over this Islands, 23^d December 1832. -

During our stay at port Egmont the boats were employed to examine into Bretts Harbour, Byrnes Sound,

Keppel's Sound, and as far ^{to} the westward of Point Bay, 60 miles from our anchorage, to search for inhabitants, but found none. I was therefore led to believe, with reference to that part of your orders which pointed out the probability of a foreign force being in these Islands if (any existed) I should find them in Berkley sound, to the eastward.

Not having met with the obstructions, at Port Lymont, mentioned in the seventh and eighth paragraphs of your orders, I did not conceive myself justified in waiting at that port for H. M. Ship Time, as I had been ten days there, I left a letter in a sealed bottle at the fort, to acquaint Capt. Hope that I had sailed for Berkley Sound, where I arrived on the 2^d January 1833, and found a settlement under the Buenos Ayres flag with twenty five

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Soldiers, and also a national
Schooner under the same flag. I
waited upon the Commander of
the Schooner; he informed me
he commanded both afloat and
ashore. I acquainted him civilly
with the object of my mission,
and requested him to unhoist his
force and haul down his flag
on shore, he being in a profession
belonging to the Crown of Great
Britain

The position of these Islands, and
the numerous harbours so advantageously
situated for piratical purposes, particular-
ly on vessels passing and repassing Cape
Horn, which from the circumstance
of large shipments of specie being
sent from the Pacific to Europe
in merchant vessels, is to be appre-
hended, I therefore respectfully draw
your attention to the necessity of ha-
ving a small force stationed at this
Port, and the Islands to be frequently

visited by H. M. Ships and vessels
of war. This port is much frequented
by whaling and sealing vessels, which
makes the propriety of this sugges-
tion apparent, to preserve order and
authority and to protect the
settlers in their peaceful agricultural
fishing, and other pursuits. I have
little doubt when it is generally known
Great Britain has taken these Islands
under her protection, settlers will be
induced to come out.

traducido p. Dr. Costa



(Signed) Onslow

Walter Phillips Esq
St Johns Baha