

“I and my good wife will do our utmost to wisely direct and influence for good the Orphanage. We will erect the building at the earliest possible date. We have only now received it.

“On Christmas Day we had a large gathering of natives, with whom we had an interesting meeting in the workyard, where they were orderly seated, being clean and clothed for the most part. There were present 57 men, 71 women, 38 boys, 38 girls, 22 baby boys, and 20 baby girls ; altogether 246. Since then we have given treats to the school children, the big boys, and the confirmed men and women. We have had visits from different bodies of natives, who have more continuously resided here than hitherto.

“There has been a remarkable supply of *Ia-ca-si*, a native term including the class of fish represented by sprats and mackerel, inclusive of such birds, and even seals, which prey upon them. Sprats were so plentiful as to be left repeatedly in dense masses on the shores around us, and for some days the air was scarcely fit to breathe through the stench of millions of sprats which literally covered the shores of the inlet. Four kinds—or, rather, five—of fish are found in company with the sprats, which are decidedly larger than those found around the coasts of England. These five kinds of larger fish are excellent in flavour and richness, and their livers supply the natives with abundance of oil during the season. The excitement among the natives when the shoals approached the shore was intense. This was always by night, and the shores used to be closely watched. The noise made by the approaching myriads of fish was like that of quickly rippling water ; we could even hear it, though some 400 yards off. The natives, provided with dips for sprats and spears for the larger fish, obtained large quantities, and lived meanwhile on fish only.

“Another cause for thankfulness is an extraordinary yield of the chief winter fungus called *uzúf*, but now, in its immature state, *macéenik*. This is a great standby for at least five months, and much appreciated by the natives.

“The health of myself and family is very satisfactory, and I trust to have no further trouble from my late obstinate complaint of years' standing. I greatly value this additional blessing. “T. BRIDGES.”

Falklands.

KEPPEL ISLAND.

R. BARTLETT gives the following account of the Governor of Sandy Point's visit to Keppel. His Excellency was on board the Chilean man-of-war “Chacabuco.”

“His Excellency Governor Dublé appeared to be well pleased with Keppel Island and everything here. The ‘Chacabuco’ anchored in the Bay about twelve o'clock. The Governor, Commandante, and a goodly



number of officers came on shore at once ; so many indeed, that our dairy was quite filled. Whilst they were all enjoying jam and cream, the Governor stepped back, and said, 'The locusts have come to your house.' I assured him we were well pleased to entertain such locusts. After luncheon I took the Governor, Captain, and Doctor round the place, and showed them everything I thought would interest them. They expressed themselves well satisfied and pleased with all they saw, and wished they had a similar place at Sandy Point. The Governor says the people there are so lazy. What a nice gentleman the Governor is ! We came back to the house between five and six o'clock, when they all partook of a kind of tea dinner, which they said they enjoyed very much. They returned to their ship about eight o'clock. The officers had some fair shooting. All the shore party were invited off to breakfast the next morning ; only my family went, and they said they never enjoyed themselves more. I went off at six in the evening to settle with the Governor about the sheep, as I was not able to go before, so His Excellency and the Commander would insist upon my sitting down to dinner with them, which I did, and enjoyed it very much. They left early on Sunday morning, took fifty ewes at 18s. per head, and fifty ewe lambs at 12s. per head, and two rams. The Captain also bought and paid for four wether sheep and one ram. The 'Ready' left here on the 24th of last month. We put twenty-two heifers on board for Ooshooia, two cows and a young calf for a native, and three heifers and a young bull to be landed at Gable Island for the Mission. We have sheared all the sheep on the two small islands, and shall have a nice lot of wool this year. Three of the natives have gone back in the vessel. The new building is nearly finished, and a fine building it is."

Uruguay.

SALTO.



THE Church and community at Salto have experienced a great loss in the death of Mr. Cristian Siemans. His cordial sympathy and support were always given to the Chaplain, who deeply feels his premature decease.

"Salto, Uruguay, February 18th, 1877.

"Since Christmas the heat here has been unusually great. Day after day, and week after week, the thermometer has registered as much as 100 deg. in the shade by nine o'clock in the morning, and from eleven to four o'clock, it has generally stood at 106 deg or 108 deg. ; even through the night it has ranged from 90 deg. to 100 deg. This summer Salto has