

IV.—WEST INDIES.

1871-1872.

The grant of £50 a year for the education of a negro boy and girl in Jamaica,* expired in December, 1871, and had been enjoyed by Kate Patten during the whole period of three years, and by Henry Perkins for the first year and Thomas Oliphant for the other two years. Reports of the good conduct and progress of both Kate Patten and T. Oliphant were expected by the Committee, but no report reached them after 1870, except that the Rev. H. H. Isaacs in January, 1871, personally attended the Committee and offered some explanation of the causes of Kate Patten's irregular school attendance; and in May, 1871, the Committee received through Miss Barney the following report as to T. Oliphant:—

"To the Rev. H. H. ISAACS, M.A.

"MICO INSTITUTION, Feb. 13, 1871.

"In reply to your questions respecting Thomas Oliphant, I am happy to say that I have no fault to find with him, except want of energy, which seems natural to his class. He has got on well with his studies, arithmetic in particular, and seems to employ his spare time out of school hours very profitably, besides keeping the garden in order, etc.

"His character and morals, as far as I know, are unexceptional, honest, and truthful, which is saying a great deal for a boy of his class. I am sure with a few more years training he will make a teacher to do a great amount of good in his community.

"Yours etc.,

"W. PEARCE."

The medical student, Derwent H. R. Waldron,† arrived in

* See Report, 1868, pp. 78, 79, and Report, 1870, pp. 230-2.

† See Report, 1870, p. 231.