

Christian boarding-school, but the parents opposed it. The girl waited patiently, but with a longing heart.

Three weeks ago she became very ill. Her parents did all they could, but she daily grew worse.

Hira lay on some straw day and night, tossing restlessly in a high fever, and even then her one desire was to be carried to the school.

One day she said to her father, "Will you make me a promise and keep it faithfully?" The old man assented, and the girl lifting her black eyes to him, said, "After I die, do not take me to the bank where Hindus are burned, but carry me to the Christians, and let them bury me."

When all hope of life was given up, the girl was brought to the mission. She was bathed, dressed, and laid in a clean, quiet room. Day and night she was watched and nursed. When for a few minutes relieved of pain, she would say, "I never will leave you." When asked why she desired to stay, she said, "I have given myself to Jesus."

Contrary to all expectations, she gradually improved, and is now almost well. Last week her mother came and cried, beseeching her to go home to them. Hira's tears rolled down her cheeks, and the agitation of her little heart caused her weak frame to tremble, but she firmly refused to leave the people of her choice. Now she is one of our girls, and is happy the live-long day.

USE GOOD LANGUAGE.

The expression "More forcible than polite," is descriptive of something a person very much in earnest has said; but it need not imply that one cannot be in his language both forcible and polite at the same time. We knew a man for years who always used correct language, and talked "like a gentleman" even under excitement. More than once or twice we saw him angry, and

heard him talk loudly, but he never used slang or said anything coarse—and we shall always remember his flashes of vocal emphasis as examples of the tremendous vigour of good plain English. It was simply the result of habit with that man, in his youth he had learned to speak well, and the culture made it "second nature" with him, to do so. The slang of the street is sometimes very forcible, but those who think street arab talk necessary to sharpen an expression or drive home a meaning should learn better by reading the speeches of such men as Demosthenes, Cicero, Gladstone, and the best writers. No one can charge their language with lack of force and vigour, and yet it never parts with its elegance.

Young people should acquire the habit of correct speaking and writing, and bandon, as early as possible, the use of slang words and phrases. The longer you put this off, the more difficult the acquirement of correct language will be; and if the golden age of youth, the proper season for the acquisition of language, be passed in its use, the unfortunate victim will most probably be doomed to talk slang for life. You have merely to use the language which you read, instead of the slang which you hear, to form a taste in agreement with the best speakers and the poets in the country.

LITTLE SINS.

You make light of them now, but they are not to be trifled with; they creep on so stealthily that you scarcely notice them; by-and-bye you will find it impossible to turn them out. I think of the Indian story of the tiny dwarf, who asked the king to give him all the ground he could cover with three strides. The king seeing him so small, said "certainly." Whereupon the dwarf suddenly shot up into a huge giant, covered all the land with the first stride, all the water with the second, and with the third knocked the king down and then took his throne.

NOTICE.

THE CANADIAN INDEPENDENT, published monthly, will be sent free to any part of Canada or the United States for one dollar per annum.

All communications regarding the subjects matter of the magazine, to be addressed to Rev. J. Burton, B.D., Editor, Box 2648, Toronto.

All business correspondence to be directed to the "Business Manager," Box 2648, Toronto, except those regarding advertisements, which are to be addressed to C. Blakett Robinson, 5 Jordan Street, Toronto.

Pastors, Secretaries of Churches, or any interested friend of the cause, are requested to send for insertion items of Church News. To ensure insertion in the number of the coming month, such items, correspondence, etc., must be on hand not later than 20th of the current month.