AN IDLE SCAVENGER.

The bowels act the part of a scavenger, inasmuch as they remove much of the debris, the waste effete matter of the system. When they grow lazy, neglectful of duty, [illegible] of the utmost importance that they should be compelled to a healthy, [illegible] effects this desirable object [illegible] them like a drastic purgative. The [illegible] is also efficacious for malaria, biliousness, [illegible] and kidney trouble.

Creditor—Can't you pay something on account of that little bill you owe me? Debtor—How much do you want? Creditor—I'd like enough to meet lawyers' fees to sue for the balance.

BLACK DIAMONDS.

A Dealer Furnishes Some Interesting Facts About Them.

"How much would you give for this?" asked Clerk Moore of a gentleman standing on the opposite side of the office counter at the Planters' hotel. The article referred to appeared to be an irregularly shaped brown stone less than an inch long and measuring hardly half an inch at its greatest thickness. The gentleman addressed took it in his hand, inspected it closely and shook his head. "That may have a value," he answered, "but without knowing more about it I wouldn't give you as much as a match or a toothpick for it. To me it looks like a brown pebble worn smooth all around by the water."

The "pebble" was a black diamond worth $1,200. It was one of nearly 100 carried by Henry Demmert, a guest at the hotel from New York city.

The general supposition is that the greatest diamond mines of the world are in South Africa. And so they are, but nevertheless the firm of which Mr. Demmert is general head and manager exports more diamonds to South Africa than to any other part of the globe. The explanation is easy. Mr. Demmert's diamonds are not of the kind used as headlights for shirt fronts. The place of their greatest utility is underground in mines, where starched shirt bosoms are practically unknown. South Africa doesn't produce them, but it could not well get along without them.

"Black diamond is the hardest substance known," said the gentleman. "We can bore a hole 6 feet deep in three minutes through Georgia marble, the kind of which this hotel floor is made. We can saw off a slab 14 feet long from a block 3 feet thick in less than an hour. A good many feats can be performed with it now that could not a few years ago. The business is only about 20 years old, and improvements are constantly being made in it. We take these rough stones such as you have just seen and split them by machinery in a way that was unknown until recently. The split must follow the grain. If it does not, half of the stone will be wasted. Each stone is split into cubes of different sizes. The cubes are then welded into mining drills if they are to be used for boring. The iron is cast about the diamond so that it cannot get loose. In the same way we make diamond saws. They are circular saws. Every tooth is a black diamond cube. It is fastened on when the iron portion of the saw is in a molten state.

"Where do we get them? Why, in Brazil. All black diamonds come from that country. The attempt to make them artificially has proved a failure in every instance, and that will be the result of every trial hereafter. I don't say it is impossible, but that it is impracticable. The cost will always be greater than the market price of the Brazilian diamond, even if the advance of the last two months should be duplicated every two months for a year to come. The cause of the recent advance you ask? It was the increased demand for drills in Johannesburg, South Africa, that did it. Fifty new drills have been set at work in that mining district alone since August, and the result has been to raise the price per carat from $16 to $21. About all the diamond drills of that district were furnished by or indirectly through myself, and of course I am in a position to know the situation."

Black diamonds weigh ordinarily, says Mr. Demmert, less than 100 carats, ranging all the way down to half a carat, but now and then a regular jumbo is found. The largest in existence was found only a short time ago, its weight being 3,200 carats. The diamond was sold to a museum in Europe for $40,000.—St. Louis Globe Democrat.

How Fast the Earth Moves.

Everybody knows that the earth makes one complete revolution on its axis once in each 24 hours. But few, however, have any idea of the high rate of speed at which such an immense ball must turn in order to accomplish the feat of making one revolution in a day and a night. A graphic idea of the terrific pace which the old earth keeps up year after year may be had by comparing its speed to that of a cannon ball fired from a modern high pressure gun. The highest velocity ever attained by such a missile has been estimated at 1,626 feet per second, which is equal to a mile in 3 2-10 seconds. The earth, in making one complete revolution in the short space of 24 hours, must turn with a velocity almost exactly equal to that of the cannon ball. In short, its rate of speed at the equator is exactly 1,507 feet per second. This is equal to a mile every 3 6-10 seconds. 17 miles a minute.—St. Louis Republic.

NEGROES FOR LIBERIA.

Four Hundred Will Sail From Savannah on Feb. 27.

The International Migration society of Birmingham, Ala., has chartered the steamer Laurada to carry 400 colored people from Savannah to Monrovia, Liberia.

The Laurada will leave Philadelphia for Savannah with a general cargo of about 800 tons, and at Savannah will take on board the negroes and sail thence on Feb. 27 for Monrovia. Meantime a special train will start for Memphis and run through the states of Arkansas, Mississippi, Alabama and Georgia to pick up the colored people who desire to go to Liberia to live. Men, women and children will be taken, but the society will endeavor to select men who have had experience in farming, shoemaking, carpentering and other mechanical trades.

Landing at Monrovia, the men will be obliged to declare their intention to become citizens of the republic, after which declaration each family will receive 25 acres of land.

A temporary home in Monrovia will be provided for the immigrants until they are enabled to start work in their various pursuits.

The United States minister to Liberia informs the society that the 200 negroes taken there on the steamer Horsa in March last are doing well, and that there is a demand for negroes of mechanical genius and thrifty habits.

PADEREWSKI FLED.

Chicago Drummers Play a Trick on the Long Haired Pianist.

Ignace J. Paderewski, the famous pianist, arrived in Chicago the other morning with three managers and put up at the Auditorium hotel. In the rotunda after breakfast Paderewski met Marsick, the violinist, whose black hair is fully as luxuriant and defiant of bounds as is the red stock sprouted by the Pole. Some traveling men espied the two in the smoking room and straightway retired to the cafe and got their heads together.

In Chicago a state law closes the barber shops on Sunday. The Great Northern hotel provides for its guests. The jokers called up Proprietor Eden by telephone and ordered him to have his best barber at the Auditorium at 3 in the afternoon to minister to the Paderewski locks. Eden was advised to instruct his man to go direct to Paderewski's room. This the barber did.

The musician speaks English very imperfectly, and when a man in checked clothes and carrying a black hand bag burst in on him he thought of anarchists and fled to the bathroom, bawling for help. The three managers and the hotel detective dragged the barber down stairs and threw him out into the street, and now Proprietor Eden is trying to locate the drummers who victimized him.—Cincinnati Enquirer.