

age in a moral point of view, as all classes and ages of persons are thrown together in one common herd, as it were, the young and old being indiscriminately mixed up, and many young persons who might be reformed, are doubtless made much worse by their constant association with the more hardened criminals. The following statistics will show the approximate amount of *loss* to the State, by the *lost labor* in the Institution:

187 males at 75 cents per diem, for 300 days, (1 year.)	\$42,075
26 females at 40 cents per diem, for 300 days, (1 year.)	3,120
Total loss for 1 year.....	\$45,195

This amount would be amply sufficient to erect proper buildings for present use, and whilst improving the moral condition of the convicts would materially reduce the expense of the Institution, by the decrease in the number of guards &c., to watch over those now in idleness.

THE INCREASE OF PRISONERS.

The increase in the number of prisoners received into the Institution during the past year has been unprecedented in its history. The unhappy events attendant upon our late troubles seems to have been in a measure productive of this state of affairs, and it is feared that the recent Act of Congress prohibiting the sale of negroes for criminal offences will increase still more, in proportion the vast increase in the number of convicts as all these cases will now become a tax upon the state for support. The proportion of colored prisoners received were largely in excess over the whites during the year, there being 220 blacks to 144 whites. The colored labor we find, has always been objectionable to the contractors in the Institution as they invariably prefer white labor where mechanical skill, or ingenuity is required.

The following list of the number of colored prisoners received annually for the last seven years, shows the great increase of this class:

	MALES.	FEMALES.	TOTAL.
1860.....	9	0	9
1861.....	1	0	1
1862.....	19	4	23
1863.....	32	17	49
1864.....	29	17	46
1865.....	70	36	106
1866.....	174	46	220
	334	120	454

In a majority of the cases of colored prisoners, they are con-