

“The behavior of the convicts the past year has been very satisfactory. Only six have been punished with the lash, and but few have been put in dark cell; and yet we are satisfied as a whole they never worked better. There have been more days labor performed in proportion to the number of convicts in prison than ever before, and full as much labor from each convict per day; there has been less insubordination, and less violation of the rules of the prison. Their tasks have been cheerfully and well done, and as a general rule much interest has been taken by them in their various departments of labor, to do it well and to do what was required of them; and all this without the help of the lash. At least twenty-five per cent. more work is obtained from them at present than when the lash was freely used; and yet we claim for ourselves all the necessary good discipline best calculated to make these outcasts from society better both for themselves while here and for society when liberated.

“Many of these good results arise from our ‘good time’ law, allowing each convict five days per month from his term of sentence for good behavior. Of the 169 discharged, 131 were entitled to and received the benefit of this law. This law as a disciplinarian is of inestimable value, and no inducement could persuade me to connect myself with any penal institution of this kind where the lash stood first and the principal means of enforcing discipline.”

The strictest economy has been observed in buying and disposing of the clothing and provisions. It is quite probable that the cost of keeping the prisoners the coming year will exceed that of the last.

The Steam-boilers belonging to the Institution, have been in use for the last twenty years. They have just been examined by competent judges who report that though there is no immediate danger to be apprehended from their use, yet they advise the removal of the old ones and supply their place with new ones. The cost of doing this will be about \$2,000.

Owing to the large increase of our female prisoners, we have been compelled to fit up sleeping apartments and make other arrangements for their accommodation. There is a great deficiency of shop room for that department, but we have made the best disposition of the rooms we have for that purpose.

I would here call your attention to the creditable manner in which Mrs. Hartley, the Matron, has discharged her duties. Notwithstanding the large increase of prisoners in her department, good order has prevailed.

Our thanks are due to the ministers of the gospel, who