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THE ASTORIAN guarantees to its advertisers the largest circulation of any newspaper published on the Columbia River. In future all items of local interest forwarded to this office must be addressed to the CITY EDITOR.

TODAY'S WEATHER. Portland, March 21.—For Oregon and Washington, rain except about Baker City; rain or snow and cooler west of the Cascades.

Local weather for the twenty-four hours ending at 5 p. m., yesterday, furnished by the U. S. department of agriculture, weather bureau: Maximum temperature, 50 degrees. Minimum temperature, 41 degrees. Precipitation, .30 inches.

Total precipitation from July 1st, 1892, to date, 53.29 inches. Deficiency of precipitation from July 1st, 1892, to date, 2.18 inches.

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When economy runs into downright stupidity it is time to seriously consider whether we cannot have too much of a good thing. At the meeting of the city council last night there was put forth one of the most insane propositions it has ever been our lot to hear.

The importance of Time. (Essay of Grover Cleveland, aged nine.)—Time is divided into seconds—minutes, hours, days, weeks, months, years and centuries. If we expect to become great and good men and be respected and esteemed by our friends we must improve our time when we are young.

The Marion County Democrat says: "Every once in a while some republican newspaper speaks of the democratic party being dissatisfied with this or that action of President Cleveland. The truth is that the people, the great masses of parties, have unlimited confidence in the judgement, sincerity and patriotism of the president."

defense of the Sound is a matter of great concern, that is, unless we are prepared to act on the theory that we need no defenses at all. There has been a great deal of talk as to the advantage of Hawaii as an outpost to protect this coast, but we fancy that its value largely exists in the imagination of the writers who tell about it.

In the event of a war with England, says the Seattle Telegraph, of what value would fortifications and a naval station on Hawaii be to us here on the Sound? The British fleet would sail down from Esquimaux and we could do absolutely nothing to keep it from taking possession of the whole Sound country, and the western terminus of several transcontinental railroads.

It is interesting to read the following essay, a copy of which was obtained from Miss Cook, now living at Fayetteville, N. Y.; Grover Cleveland's teacher in 1849. How little the old lady dreamt when she read the lad's composition that he would be the honored president of the United States.

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The privations of the democracy are terrible. First, Gresham. Second, Blaine. Third, Hoke Smith and the rest of the cabinet. Fourth, no ex-officio holders have no right to postoffices. Sixth, free silver coinage postponed. Seventh, wild-cat banking deferred. Eighth, tariff robbery to be continued. Ninth, reciprocity goes on consuming the vitals of the populace. Tenth, the sum of all—no relief for anybody. Is this a democratic administration?

Mr Cleveland may be making a mistake in not muzzling the press with a few foreign missions. Wasting those pleasant places on old lawyers, when there are qualified editors ready to stand unabashed before kings or Panama princes, is political profligacy.

The calmness of the New York World as an administrative organ has settled into a frozen smile. There is sorrow on ice somewhere.

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