

A NEBRASKA BOY'S DARING.

**Brave Conduct of Oscar Brinkman
in the Samoa Storm.**

A HARD FIGHT WITH THE WAVES.

**Washed Overboard He Returns, as if
Were, From the Grave, Bringing
Succor to His Endangered
Comrades.**

Fearless Oscar Brinkman.
FREMONT, Neb., April 26.—[Special to THE BEA.]—I have just learned of an act of great heroism by a youth eighteen years of age, Oscar Brinkman, son of Henry Brinkman, co. Seven Oaks farm, near Fremont. Young Oscar was a sailor on board the Vandallia when that ill-fated ship met with the late disaster in the hurricane in Samoan waters. When the hurricane struck the ship all hands were at their posts. The anchors were cast, but it soon became evident that they would not hold the ship against the furious gale, and she slowly but surely drifted towards the surf. A tremendous sea struck her, sweeping over her, washing away many

thing which was not securely fastened. In the interval of quiet which followed the rainstorm, the vessel gave a lurch and the plank and spar. Presently the vessel gave a heavy lurch before the gale and many men were blown away, including young Brinkman, who literally

BLOWN FROM THEIR PLACES. Brinkman and wave left in the foaming sea. The plank was carried away by the waves and Brinkman succeeded in seizing a plank which he was washed from the deck of the steamer and which he clung to. He was unable to do anything but wave help over the ship and carrying with him Captain Schmoobaker. He was seen by Captain Schmoobaker. He was carried away by the storm and not again seen.

Brinkman, whilst clinging to his plank and plank driven about by the waves, saw one of the men who had been blown away by the storm and not again seen.

When the storm broke, the men were nearly exhausted, and immediately quitting their plank seized hold of high by the hair and with their hands and feet clung to the ropes to which they both clung while the storm raged. All around

WERE SCINTILLATING FOR DEATH IN THE SURGE AND SWELLING WATERS. Many were stunned or killed outright by being dashed against floating objects which had been washed from the storm-battered ship. How they were saved is a story that will be told towards the shore. Time and again they were overturned and immersed in the water. One man, who had been dragged towards the beach, when the wave had receded they were left in shallow water abandoning their planks, they ran as fast as they could away from the beach, and when getting far enough up not to be caught by the next incoming wave, which carried them out to sea, they turned back and swam out of the wash of the sea. They bring experience

to be

OUT OF DANGER

before the wave returned. Half dead, and with only one arm, they were, Brinkman's first thought was to try to get help, and render assistance to those on board the ill-fated ship. He secured a boat, and persuaded some of the crew to accompany him. He determined to again venture into the angry sea, from which he had so perilously escaped. Three natives and himself manœuvred the boat, and started with a rope to establish a line between the shore and the ship. Trenton and his crew were the first to be thrown into the sea, and all were thrown into the sea and again swayed with the elements. "Fortunately it

TOOK THEIR LIVES IN THEIR RESCUE

to them. Finally, the cable reached the Trenton, and the rope was safely thrown on board and the men eagerly caught. The lives of hundreds of brave sailors were saved by the heroism of one youth—households were saved from ruin and the world-wide peace of the nations and brothers have cause to rejoice. The man who had not been for the bravery of Oscar Brinkman, the Nebraska boy, would have been stricken with grief and their homes turned into graves. The country would have had reason to be proud of having such men for its defenders. Brave deeds have been done by our soldiers and sailors, but few can rank higher on the roll of honor than the hero of Samoa.

Attempted Suicide. William J. Coots attempted suicide last night by taking a dose of morphine. Why he desired to jump into the depths of the unknown is a mystery yet to his friends, as they claim he had no apparent reason to be distracted. The deadly drug was taken in a medicine shop. Dr. Lee was immediately summoned and applied restoratives, which saved the young man's life. Coots was taken to a Turkish bath house under Boyd's corner house, where he remained during the night.

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