

Open Water. By James B. Connolly. New York: Charles Scribner's Sons. \$1.50.

In the four volumes of short stories previously published by Mr. Connolly he has confined himself rather closely to the Gloucester fishing fleets of the Grand Banks. He has himself shipped on a fishing schooner, and has succeeded in catching and conveying to the reader in a forceful manner the humor and pathos in the everyday lives of the men pursuing this dangerous calling. The present volume contains, in addition to a few Gloucester stories, a great variety, ranging from the experiences of an American officer in the Russo-Japanese War to the story of a foot race. The "Gree Gree Bush," among others, is a result of the author's recent trip to Asiatic waters, made partly with the American battleship fleet on its cruise around the world. We select the "Cruise of the Bounding Boy" as the best story in the book. It tells of two roving Yankees, whose sealing schooner is confiscated and sold in Japan. By pawning a ring they buy two ancient rifles left by Perry in his first voyage to Japan, and with these two curios they row out in a sampan to their schooner in the harbor of Yokohama, recapture her and sail away to Seattle.

Romance of Princess Amelia. By W. S. Childe-Pemberton. New York: John Lane Company. \$5.

Correspondence and papers of no great intrinsic importance, but essential to such a narrative, are freely drawn upon in this account of an unfortunate princess. This Amelia, sixth daughter and fifteenth child of George III, is not to be confounded with her self-willed great-aunt, of the same name, daughter of the second George. She was born in 1783, and her pitiable "romance" was her love for General the Honorable Charles Fitz Roy, which was denied satisfaction, but ever remained pure, tho tongues wagged mischief, and this was an era of secret marriages within the royal family. Fitz Roy was twenty years the senior of the Princess and a favorite of the broken old King. Amelia made the mistake of trying to live instead of stopping short with merely reading the "sensible" novels of Richardson and her friend, Miss Burney; and Mr. Childe-Pemberton tells her sad little story with all sympathy. A side light upon eighteenth century manners is reflected by this remark of the biographer: "The 'elegant' Miss Burney, whose delicate feelings revolted against being told to ring a bell, was an adept at mixing the Queen's snuff. The King complimented Miss Burney on the way she 'cooked snuff.'" The Princess Amelia liked it; this in an age when even the male sex smoking in public was regarded with horror.