

A Fair Florentine.

She hath eyes that shame the night, Deep and mystic, dark with doom, Rich in thought, alive with bloom, When the passion flowers bloom, And the lips are stained with red, Mate, and motionless, and calm, Till a score of kisses shed, Loving's elixir of her hair, Soft and downy is her breast, Tranquil as a virgin rose, Now to rock in wild unrest, Like an ocean in its throes, Bella, Bella, Gratiella, Queen where Anzio's river flows.

MEETING STREAMS.

"A gentleman to see you, sir," "Who is it, Mr. Martin?" "A stranger, sir," "Who is he?" "His name is Davies," "You are not likely to know anything about me, as I came here yesterday. I need some help, and I have come to ask you for it."

me. By one of those curious coincidences which sometimes happen, the same name which brought me the money and grateful letter in which Mr. Davies acknowledged my assistance to him also brought me a check for a much larger amount than I had expected from the publishers of the magazine for which my story had appeared.

ON THE CONGO.

A Land Reported to be Flowing With Milk and Honey. The hundreds of beautiful islands of the Congo, some of them ten to twenty miles long, are as rich if not richer than the main land, says Lieutenant Taunt in his report concerning his recent expedition to Africa.

COSTLY ANCIENT BLADES.

Curiosities Worth Noticing. Alongside the modern life-guard's sword, forty inches long, and the light infantry sword, thirty-three inches in length, Messrs. Wilkinson display many antique weapons, says the Pall Mall Gazette. There are genuine specimens of the famous Andria Ferraria, which were so prized in Scotland in the old fighting days, and which are now used to some extent by the officers in the British army.

GOLD LEAF.

How, Where and by Whom It is Manufactured. Gold leaf is manufactured in about 20 shops in New York city and its suburbs. It is estimated that 20,800 ounces of gold are consumed here annually in making gold leaf.

NEWS IN BRIEF.

-The United States colleges contain 18,000 female students. -There are in the United States 15,310,141 church members. -New England in 1842 contained but fifty towns and villages.

THE TRADE OF MARRIAGE.

The usual retort, when women complain of want of remunerative employment, is that they should not work, but find men to support them. As there are 500,000 more women than men in England, it is obviously impossible that every woman should have a husband.

TWO UGLY REPTILES.

A Monster Rattlesnake and a Great Red Lizard at Meal-Time. A great black rattlesnake was moving leisurely about in his cage in a shop window in Denver, when a reporter passing to look the reptile for a few minutes, saw a bright red lizard at midnight feeding the window, and in the snake seemed to be reveling; taking his holiday, as it were, for it takes a considerable incentive to make a snake crawl to the very front of the cage, rubbing the length of his tongue along the bars, sticking out his tongue, and evidently drinking in the sunbeams which fell directly upon him.