

tusks. From government officials with whom I was traveling I learned that a herd of at least 200 elephants ranges over the vast grassy plain extending southward from near Nakon Sritamarat almost to Singora on the west side of the Inland Sea and practically from the Gulf of Siam to the high mountains in the west. This plain, suitable for rice growing, is entirely uncultivated owing to the ravages of the elephants. I do not see how the theory of an isolated herd in a restricted area, resulting in the development of a distinct variety of elephant, can be maintained, but it would be highly desirable to make a critical anatomical examination of the elephants of this region.

HUGH M. SMITH.

Bangkok, October 1924.

No. II. A New Bird from Siam.

Among a few birds incidentally collected by me on Koh Chang in April, 1924, a specimen of babbler of the genus *Pellorneum* has proved to represent a quite distinct form previously unrecognized. The species has been described under the name *Pellorneum smithi* by Mr. J. H. Riley, of the United States National Museum, in the Proceedings of the Biological Society of Washington (vol. 37, p. 129-130, October 21, 1924). The species, of which the type is an adult female, resembles *Pellorneum ruficeps subochraceum*, but the upper parts, flanks, and streaks on the chest are much darker. The describer makes the following remarks on the relations of this species:

"Count Gyldenstolpe (*Ibis*, 1920, 481) records only two races of *Pellorneum* for Siam: *Pellorneum ruficeps subochraceum* Swinhoe and *Pellorneum ruficeps minus* Hume. Of the former the U. S. National Museum possesses a good series, but the latter is not represented. Various descriptions of Hume's form which have been consulted do not agree with *Pellorneum smithi*, nor does the plate (*Cat. Birds Br. Museum*, 7, 1883, pl. 13, fig. 1) of *Pellorneum intermedius* Sharpe which Oates (*Fauna British India, Birds*, 1, 1889, 141) puts in the synonymy of *Pellorneum minus*. If the plate and descriptions are anywhere near correct, *Pellorneum smithi* is a much darker bird and lacks the streaks on the hind neck."

HUGH M. SMITH.

Bangkok, June 18, 1925.

No. III. A Fossil Crab from Siam.

During a visit to Koh Chang in 1924 I obtained specimens of a fossil crab imbedded in a very hard matrix of bluish gray, calcareous clay. The specimens came from semi-cleared land on the

east side of the island near the base of the hills, where detached clumps of the fossil-bearing clay may be picked up.

At the United States National Museum in Washington the crab was identified by Dr. Mary J. Rathbun as *Macrophthalmus latreillii* (Demarest), described and figured in Demarest's "Histoire Naturelle des Crustacés," Paris, 1822, under the name of *Gonoplax latreillii*, with the East Indies given as the habitat. Dr. Rathbun advises that the crab has since been recorded fossil from Luzon, New Caledonia, Halmahera Island, Malacca, and Coromandel, and that Mr. William Millward states in a letter that it is found in the Chinese provinces of Szechwan, Hepeh, Fukien, and Kwangsi, and in the island of Hainan. The discovery of this fossil in Siam is therefore not surprising.

It is interesting to note that the living crab has been listed by Dr. Rathbun from Koh Chang Sound in 3 to 5 fathoms on soft clay bottom, and that it has a very wide distribution in the Indo-Pacific, being found from Tokyo Bay to Madagascar.

HUGH M. SMITH.

Bangkok, June 18, 1925.

No. IV. •New Rhopalocera from Siam and Hainan.

The following new Rhopalocera from Siam and Hainan are described and figured by N. D. Riley and E. J. Godfrey in "The Entomologist," Vol. LVIII, June 1925:—

NYPHALIDAE.

Euthalia ludonia siamica - E. Siam, Pak Jong.

RIODINIDAE.

Taxila dora hainana - Hainan, Five Finger Mts., 2000 ft. (Dr. Malcolm Smith).

LYCAENIDAE.

Nacaduba angusta albida - N. Siam, Phar Nieng, near Chiengrai.

Horaga achaja Fruhst. (♀) - N. Siam, Me Song Forest, Prae.

Tajuria cippus malcolmi - Hainan, Five Finger Mts., 4000 ft. (Dr. Malcolm Smith).

HESPERIIDAE.

Mimambria wolletti Riley (♀) - N. Siam, Phar Mieng, near Chiengrai.

Ismene harisa purpurea - E. Siam, Pak Jong.

E. J. GODFREY.

Bangkok, December 1925