

are both annuals, and are of value rather to the systematic botanist than the horticulturist. One of them, *Chirita involuerata*, is from Kaw Tao, and probably the first new plant described from that island. Both the species of *Sonerila* are small plants with pretty pink, but rather fugacious flowers; the foliage in both cases is the chief attraction.

A. K.

**New Reptiles and Batrachians collected by Dr. Hugh M. Smith in Siam.** By Doris M. Cochran. (Proceedings of the Biological Society of Washington, Vol. 40, pp. 179-192, December 2, 1927.)

In this paper Miss Cochran, assistant curator of reptiles in the United States National Museum, describes eight new Siamese reptiles and batrachians obtained by Dr. Smith in connection with his collections and investigations of the local fishes.

Three of the new forms are frogs, and two belong in the genus *Philautus*. In 1893 Dr. Boulenger based a new genus, *Chirixalus*, on a Burmese frog with opposed fingers; this genus, however, according to Miss Cochran, must be united with *Philautus* since the discovery by Dr. Malcolm Smith of *Philautus palpebralis* with the first two fingers partly opposed to the others, while by the recent finding of two additional species with fully opposed fingers the supposed gap between the two genera is more completely bridged. The new species are *P. nongkhorensis* and *P. hansenae*, both represented by numerous specimens from Nong Khor in south-eastern Siam, the former having been previously collected at the same place by Dr. Malcolm Smith and identified by him as *Chirixalus doriae*. The third frog, *Microhyla malcolmi*, from Pak Jong, is named for Dr. Malcolm Smith, "whose interest in Siamese reptiles and batrachians during the many years of his residence in Bangkok has added so greatly to our knowledge of the fauna of Malaysia."

The four new lizards are *Sphenomorphus helenae*, collected at Nontaburi, whose nearest relative is *S. annamiticum* (Boettger) from Annam; *Sphenosoma hughi*, from Koh Tao in the Gulf of Siam, closely allied to Dr. Malcolm Smith's species *herberti* from Nakon Sritamarat; *Leiolopisma kohtaoensis*; and *Leiolopisma eunice*, from Ban Suk near Pak Jong.

The new snake, *Callophis hughi*, is as yet known from a single specimen found on Koh Tao.

H. M. S.

**The Birds of the Malay Peninsula.** A general account of the birds inhabiting the region from the Isthmus of Kra to Singapore with the adjacent islands. By Herbert C. Robinson. Volume I: The Commoner Birds. Royal octavo, pages 1-329, 25 plates. London, 1927.

This noteworthy work, issued by authority of the Federated Malay States Government, is to comprise five volumes, of which the