

**Article X.—DESCRIPTION OF A NEW CARIBOU FROM
KENAI PENINSULA, ALASKA.**

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FOUR TEXT FIGURES.

In September and October, 1900, Mr. Andrew J. Stone made an important collection of large mammals for the American Museum of Natural History on the Kenai Peninsula, Alaska, including a good series of Moose (*Alces gigas* Miller), several specimens each of two species of Bears, and the head of the new type of Caribou here described. Unfortunately the entire animal could not be preserved. In recognition of Mr. Stone's important contributions to our knowledge of the distribution of the large game of northern North America, and particularly of Caribou, it may be called

***Rangifer stonei*, sp. nov.**

Type, No. 16701, ♂ ad., head (skin and skull), Kenai Peninsula, Alaska, Sept. 24, 1900; Andrew J. Stone.

Adult Male, in September.—Front of nose back to middle of nostrils, chin, and edges of lower lip grayish or silvery white; top of the nose, from the white muzzle back to a point opposite the eyes, black, passing into dark (blackish) brown posteriorly and on the sides of the head to below the eyes; cheeks and throat still lighter brown; a narrow space surrounding the eye and tear duct grayish; top and sides of neck dark grayish brown, becoming lighter and grayer at the base of the neck, and then abruptly darker in front of shoulders (skin of body not preserved); front of neck white, forming a longitudinal sharply defined band 100 to 130 mm. wide, of greatly lengthened white hair, in strong contrast with the sides of the neck; the white hair attains a length, along the median line, of 200 to 225 mm.

Measurements.—Mr. Stone's measurements of the animal in the flesh are as follows: Total length 85 in. (= 2159 mm.); tail, 6 in. (= 152 mm.); tarsus, 23 in. (= 584 mm.); height to elbow, 28 in. (= 711 mm.); height to brisket, 31 in. (= 712 mm.); height to withers, 52 in. (= 1321 mm.).

Skull.—The skull is narrow and slender in comparison with even that of *R. montanus*, and is further characterized by the slenderness of the antlers, especially the narrowness of the palmated portions, and the unusual development of the brow antler and the anterior branch.



Fig. 1. *Rangifer stonei*. About $\frac{1}{4}$ nat. size.

COMPARATIVE MEASUREMENTS OF SKULL.

	R. stonci. ♂ ad.	R. montanus. ♂ ad.	R. grœnlandicus. ♂ ad.
Basal length.....	410	420	375
Tip of premaxilla to tip of nasal.....	125	125	115
“ “ “ “ alveolus of p ¹	146	148	121
Length of nasals.....	116	123	111
Breadth above m ²	116	127	115
Zygomatic breadth.....	153	148	141
Mastoid breadth.....	158	149	126
Palatal breadth at m ¹	67	73	61
Depth of skull between antlers.....	110	112	94
Upper toothrow, crown surface.....	95	99	98
Diastema (canine to p ¹).....	72	72	55
Distance between antlers below the burr.....	68	78	64
Length of mandible, incisive border to angle.....	310	330	280
Angle to tip of coronoid.....	135	148	148
Depth at m ₃	37	38	32
Length of lower toothrow.....	105	103	97
Diastema.....	124	130	100
Antlers, main beam to tip, along curvature.....	1170	1235	1000
“ greatest spread at point of palmation.....	800	875	860
“ distance between tips of longest tines.....	900	790	655
“ “ “ points at tip of main beam.....	780	555	575

Rangifer stonci is a striking member of the Caribou group, resembling *R. montanus* in its dark coloration, but differing in the great development of the heavy fringe of white hairs on the front of the neck, and its striking contrast in color with the adjoining portions of the neck. Should this prove constant it will form an easily distinguishing mark. The antlers, fully illustrated in the accompanying figures (Figs. 1-4), from photographs,¹ recall in some respects those of the Barren Ground forms of Caribou (including *R. grœnlandicus*), but they are much heavier, with better developed and more numerous tines, a special feature of differentiation being the large size and peculiar form of the anterior branch. The skull is long and slender, the facial portion especially narrow, the occipital broad, the nasals short, and the lower jaw slender.

¹ The photographs are made to the same scale as those illustrating my paper on the Mountain Caribou (this Bulletin, XIII, pp. 1-18), and I am indebted for them, as before, to the skill of Mr. J. Rowley.



Fig. 2. *Rangifer stonei*. About $\frac{1}{10}$ nat. size.

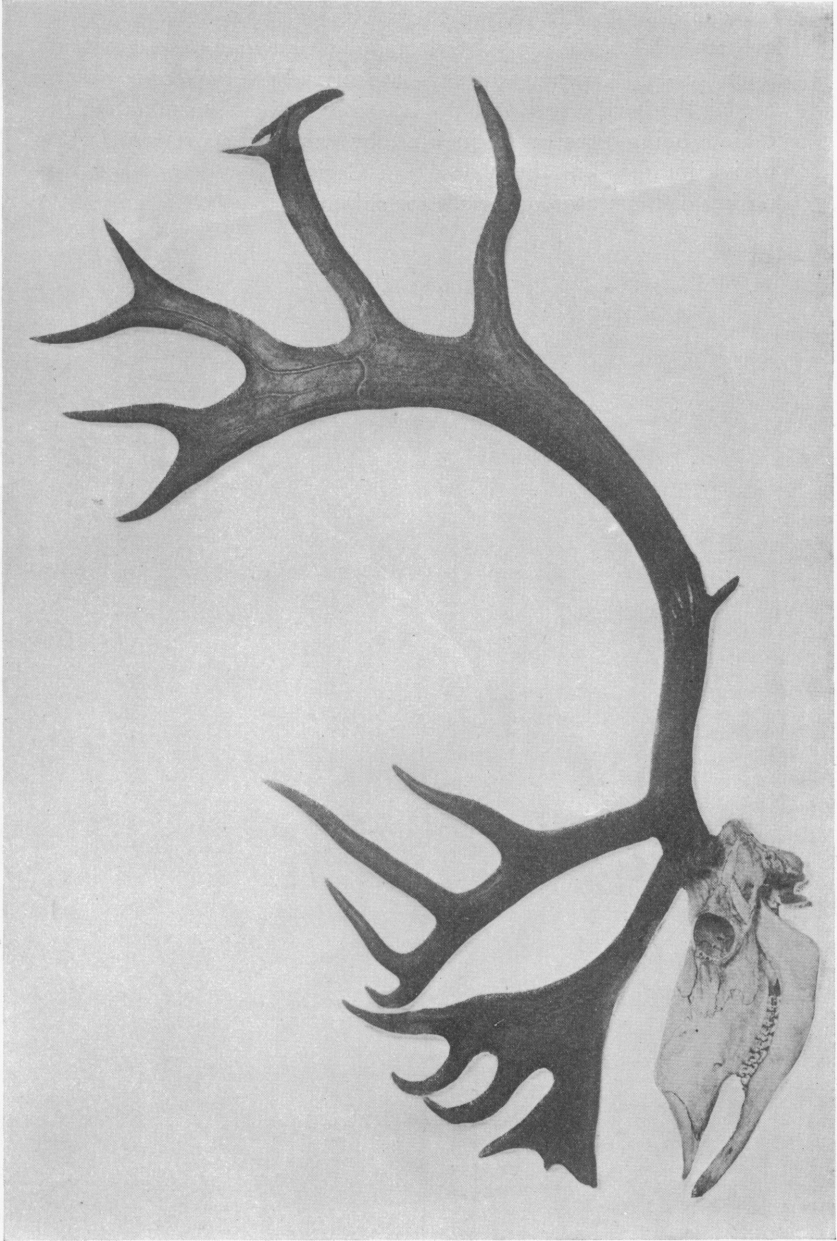


Fig. 3. *Rangifer stonei*. About $\frac{1}{10}$ nat. size.

According to Mr. Stone the specimen here described is an average adult male, the hunters claiming that they often get much finer heads. Caribou, he says, are already very scarce on the Kenai Peninsula, and will doubtless soon be exterminated, the region being greatly frequented by visiting sportsmen, while native hunters kill the Moose and Caribou for their heads, disposing of them at good prices for shipment to San Francisco.

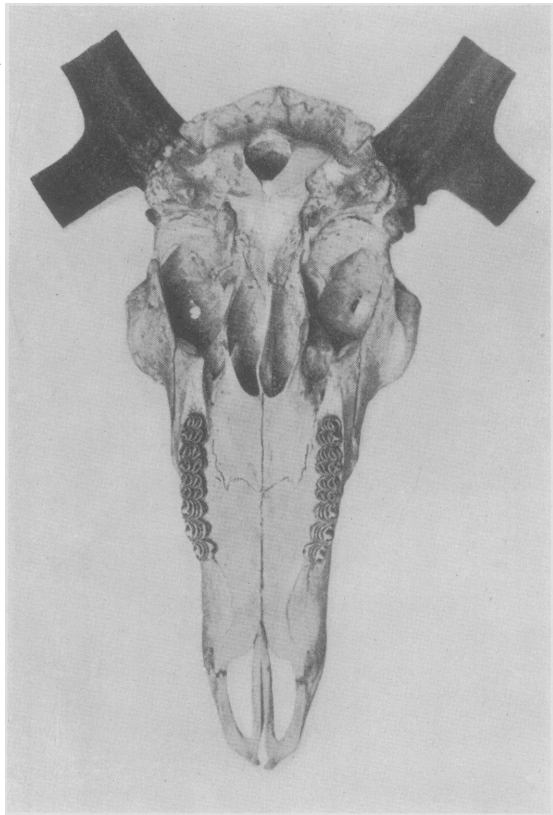


Fig. 4. *Rangifer stonei*. About $\frac{1}{2}$ nat. size.