

# THE OTTAWA NATURALIST.

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VOL. XIII.

OTTAWA, FEBRUARY, 1900.

No. 11

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## RANGIFER DAWSONI.

### PRELIMINARY DESCRIPTION OF A NEW CARIBOU FROM QUEEN CHARLOTTE'S ISLANDS.

BY ERNEST SETON-THOMPSON.

In August, 1899, while at Ottawa, Canada, my attention was called by Dr. G. M. Dawson, of the Geological Survey, to the fact that Caribou exist on the northernmost and largest island of the Queen Charlotte group, and later, on my asking for fuller details, he wrote me as follows :

“When engaged in geologically surveying the Queen Charlotte Islands in the summer of 1878, I heard of this animal but did not see it, and from Indian accounts came to the conclusion it was the Wapiti, which as you know occurs on Vancouver Island. In my report for 1878-79, p. 113 B, I therefore referred to it as follows : ‘There is pretty good evidence to show that the Wapiti occurs on the northern part of Graham, but it is very seldom killed. The small Deer (*C. columbianus*) is not found on the islands, nor is the Wolf, Grizzly Bear, Mountain Sheep or Mountain Goat.’

“At a later date I ascertained that the animal in question was not the Wapiti but the Caribou, from Mr. Charles, formerly connected with the Hudson's Bay Co. in Victoria. He had a skin of the animal, imperfect, but with horns and hoofs sufficient to show its general character.

“The only published reference I have made to the occurrence, that I can remember, is in a paper on the Later Physiographical Geology of the Rocky Mountain Region in Canada. Trans. Royal