

But the assertions of Josselyn regarding the size of the American moose have not been confirmed by the testimony of later travellers, from whose observations it is now clearly ascertained that the only large species of deer inhabiting the northern parts of America are the wapiti or Canadian stag (*Cervus canadensis*), the reindeer (*C. Tarandus*), and the moose or elk (*C. Alces*).

The peculiar branching of the brow antlers of the reindeer, and the rounded horns of the wapiti*, are characters sufficient to prevent us confounding either of these animals with the fossil species.

The palmate form of the horns of the elk gave greater probability to the opinion of its specific identity with the fossil animal.

A little attention, however, to a few circumstances, will shew a most marked difference between them.

First, as to size, the difference is very remarkable, it not being uncommon to find the fossil horns ten feet between the extreme tips†, while the largest elk's horns never measure four feet. This measurement in a pair in the Museum of the Royal Dublin Society, is three feet seven inches: the largest pair seen by Pennant in the house of the Hudson's Bay Company, measured thirty-four inches‡.

The horn of the elk has two palms, a lesser one which

* A fine pair of this species, male and female, were exhibited by Mr Bullock in this city a few summers ago. They did not answer to any description of Pennant or of Dr Shaw, but had the characters of *C. canadensis* as given by Cuvier.

† Dr Percy, Bishop of Drumore, describes a pair which measured fourteen feet by the skull. *Archæologia Brit.* v. vii.

‡ Pennant's *Zoology*, vol. i.