

INTRODUCTION.

IT had been the writer's wish for several years to give to the public a true and circumstantial delineation of the camper's life in the Maine forests, especially as seen by one who goes into them with an Indian guide. The gratification of this wish was not possible until the autumn of 1881, at which time it was the writer's good fortune to be accompanied on his annual excursion into the woods by the friend to whose brush the illustrations in the following pages are due. The tendency to sacrifice literalness and accuracy to artistic effect prevails to a great extent to-day among professional illustrators. Moreover, they do their work principally in the studio, from photographic material, it may be, and often have to draw on their imaginations to fill up gaps here and there, or to supply some deficiency left by the camera. Their pictures of forest life, therefore, are apt to convey, if not an incorrect impression, at least an inharmonious or incomplete one, lacking color and reality, detail and finish, qualities the ability to produce which