

WOODS AND LAKES OF MAINE.

CHAPTER I.

MOOSEHEAD LAKE. — ITS LOCATION. — ALTITUDE. — EXTENT. —
DEPTH. — INDIAN NAME. — LEGENDS. — MODERN NAME. —
MOUNT KINEO. — SPENCER MOUNTAINS. — INDIAN FIGHTS. —
INDIAN PLACE-NAMES.

MOOSEHEAD LAKE, the largest of two or three thousand lakes and ponds with which the State of Maine is dotted, lies just above the west central portion of the State, approximately between parallels $45^{\circ} 25'$ and $45^{\circ} 50'$, and meridians $69^{\circ} 30'$ and $69^{\circ} 48'$, and is a vast reservoir, whose waters are used extensively to float to market the yearly timber product of the Kennebec valley, and to furnish motive power to the many mills along the river's course. The lake, according to barometrical computations¹ made by the writer in 1881, is 995 feet above mean tide, while according to other estimates made during the present century its altitude is variously stated to be between 960 and 1060 feet.

¹ From eight observations, made on three successive days in August, simultaneously with observations at Orono by President M. F. Fernald of the Maine State College.