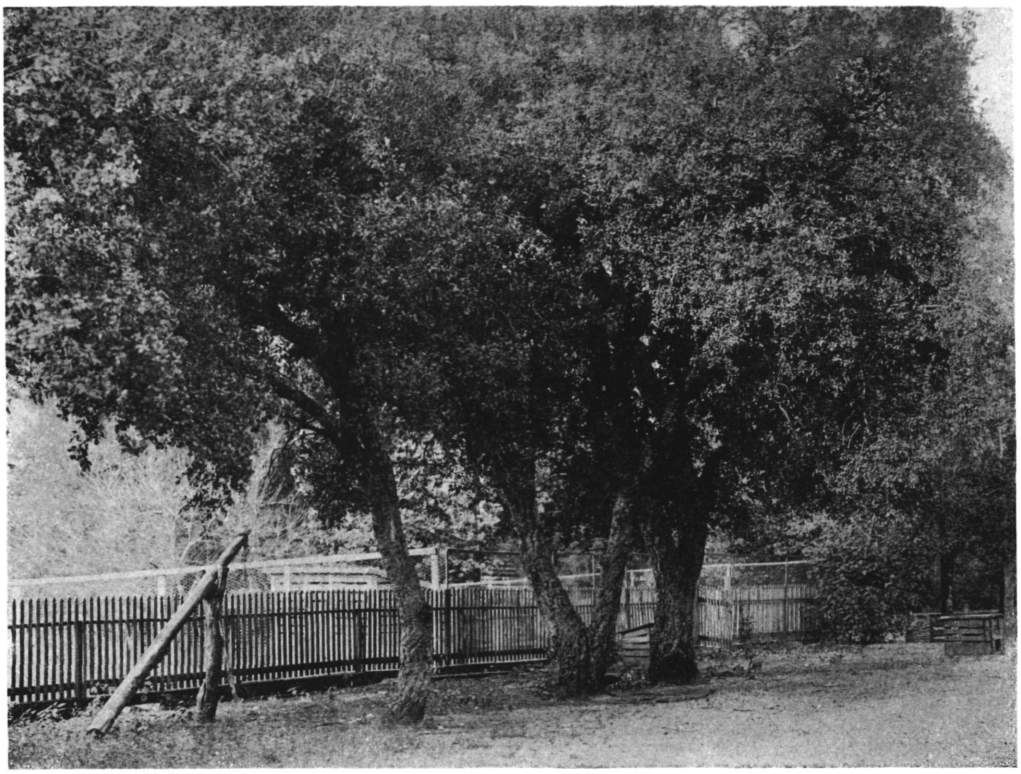

QUERCUS SUBER. CORK OAK.

That the cork oak will attain a fair size in the Southern States is shown by this halftone of a small group of trees growing at Augusta, Georgia. No data are available concerning these trees, but they are supposed to have been grown from seed introduced by the Division of Forestry (now Forest Service) in 1891. Seeds from these trees or from others in the vicinity have been received for distribution by the Forest Service under S.P.I. No. 34710. Cork oaks grow to a height of 45 feet, rarely more, and are stripped of their bark first when they reach a diameter of about 16 inches. If left to themselves the bark is coarse, deeply creviced, and of no value for the production of cork, but if démasclage, or removal of the coarse outer bark is practiced, the inner bark grows to a considerable thickness and after an interval of ten or more years is removed. Five or six such harvests are yielded by the tree before the bark is exhausted as a cork producer, after which the bark may be used as a source of tannin. From photograph presented by the P. J. Berckmans Company, Augusta, Georgia.

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