

and may for present purposes be considered as simply the branched extension of the stem underground. The cambium of the stem is continuous with that of the root, and is covered and protected with bark, ex-

cept at the growing points. The covering of bark, being as was said before, impervious to moisture, requires that all water absorbed by the plant under normal conditions, be taken in at the root tips. In order to facilitate the easy and speedy passage of moisture into the plant, we have the small hair-like bodies known as root-hairs.

**ROOT-HAIRS.** Root-hairs may best be seen on some seedling plants such as beans,



FIG. 2222. Oak tree from which some of the lower limbs have been properly cut and most of the upper ones improperly cut. (By permission from U. S. Year Book of Agriculture, 1907.)

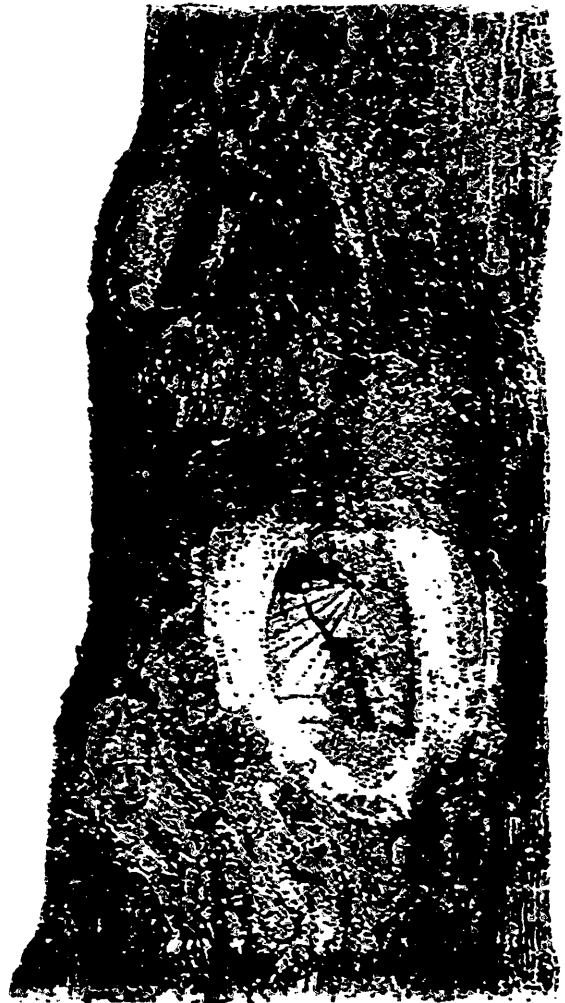


FIG. 2223. Decay caused by the cutting of too large a limb. (By permission from U. S. Year Book of Agriculture, 1907.)