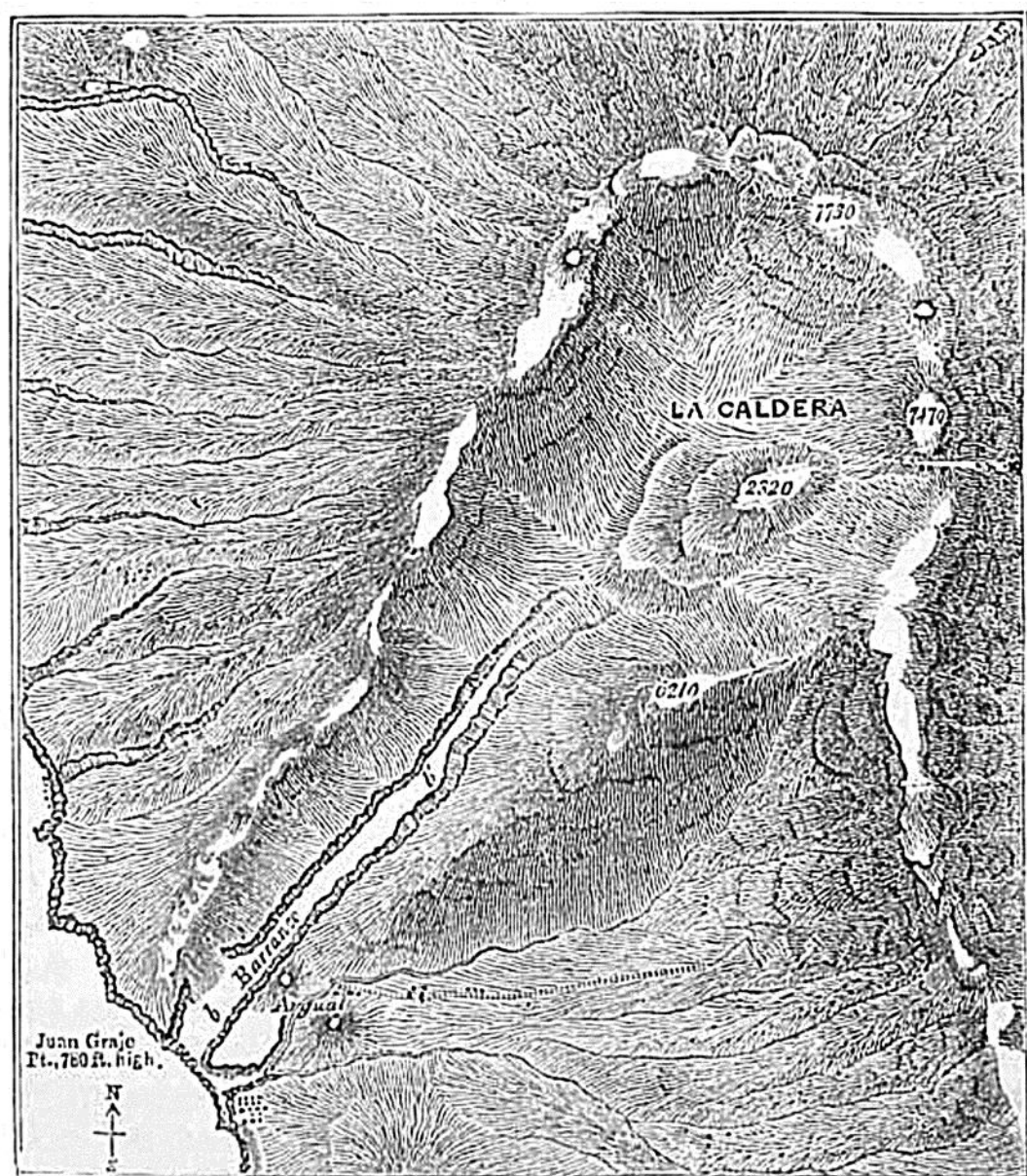


the flanks of the mountain, a short distance below the summit, shallow at first, but getting deeper as they descend, and becoming at the same time more numerous, as in the cones of Java before mentioned.

So unbroken is the precipitous boundary-wall of the Caldera, except at its southeastern end, where the torrent which drains it through a deep gorge (*b, b'*, fig. 643), issues, there is not even a footpath by which one can descend into it save at one place called the Cumbrecito (*c*, map, fig. 642, p. 494). This Cumbrecito is a narrow *col* or watershed at the height of about 2000 feet above the bottom of the Caldera, and 4000 above the sea, and situated at the precise limit of two geological formations presently to be mentioned. This *col* also occurs at the level where, in other parts of the Caldera, the vertical precipices join the talus-like, rocky slope, covered with pines. The other or principal entrance by which the Caldera is drained, is the great ravine or *barranco*, as it is called (see *b, b'*, fig. 643), which extends from the southwestern extremity of the Caldera to the sea,

Fig. 643.



Map of the Caldera of Palma and the great ravine, called "Barranco de las Angustias." From the Survey of Capt. Vidal, R. N., 1837. Scale, two geographical miles to an inch.