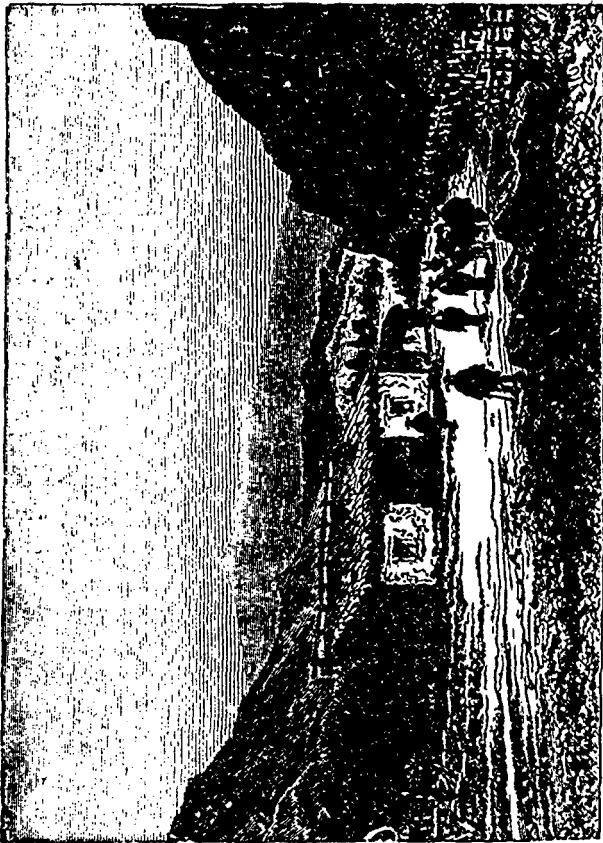


valley was absorbed in a project of introducing on his hacienda the use of certain machinery for cleansing his rice and cotton. He had ordered it a year before, at a cost of thirty thousand dollars, from New York, through the British consul at Islay, a port about fifteen miles higher up the coast, and was now impatiently expecting its arrival, together with that of the ready-



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made pine wood sheds intended to house the machines. Once a week he went to Islay to make inquiries, leaving Tambochico in the morning and returning by nightfall. During these absences of his host, Marcoy devoted a part of the day to preregrinations among the *olivares* and *higuerales*—as the small olive and fig plantations are called—which fringe the valley, and in conversing with their Indian proprietors. Among the five or six native