attributed to the crystallized tears shed at the time of the crucifixion, or to stars falling from Heaven on this occasion. In mounting the gems jewelers often place a gold tip on one prong, sometimes on opposite prongs, and frequently on all prongs. The natural crystals on weathering develop small cavities, and this serves to identify them at times, though holes are bored into the artificial stones to make them look genuine. Some of the advertisements venture statements that this gem is found only in Virginia, and if the reference is made only for the artificial ones, such a statement may be sustained. Even some popular articles have advertised the Virginia staurolites and probably were sincere in so doing. Most all texts on mineralogy now make mention of Patrick County, Virginia, but very few mention Henry County, and the latter is really better in many respects for good collecting.

UNUSUAL CRYSTAL HABIT OF CASSITERITE

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The writer is indebted to Mr. A. J. Haley of Pulacayo, Bolivia, for the loan of a crystal group ($3'' \times 2'' \times 1''$) of cassiterite which shows very unusual crystal habit. The specimen is from Araca, Bolivia. As a whole it is reddish brown in appearance, due to a coating of iron oxides on portions of the prism faces and between the crystals. A few small iron stained crystals of quartz are in the group. The individual cassiterite crystals, on an average, are about 2 to 4 millimeters square and 6 to 12 millimeters long. They are brownish yellow in color and translucent.

The unusual features about them are that only first order prisms and first order unit pyramids occur, and that the prism faces are about 2 to 3 times as long as they are wide. All the prism faces are peculiarly furrowed parallel to the elongation, suggesting curved vicinal faces with very large intercepts along the $\acute{c}$ axis. The curving is convex with respect to the nearest prism edges resulting in divergence of the furrows toward the ends of the prism. No doubly terminated crystals or twins, can be found in the group. Measurements on the well developed pyramids show angles $111 \wedge \bar{1}\bar{1}1 = 87°02'$. Therefore $111 \wedge 110 = 46°29'$, which approaches very closely the theoretical value of $46°27'$.