time solitary, at another in groups. In most cases, crystallites are transparent and colorless, or slightly tinted, but sometimes they are black and opaque, from a coating of ferruginous oxide, or only appear so as an optical delusion from their position. Black, seemingly opaque, hair-like, twisted and curved forms, termed *trichites*, occur abundantly in obsidian.

Microlites are other incipient forms of crystallization which differ from crystallites in that they react on polarized light. They assume rod-like or needle-shaped forms, sometimes occurring singly, sometimes in aggregates, and even occasionally grouped into skeleton-crystals. They can for the most part be identified as rudimentary forms of definite minerals such as augite, hornblende, felspar, olivine, and magnetite.

Good illustrations of the general character and grouping

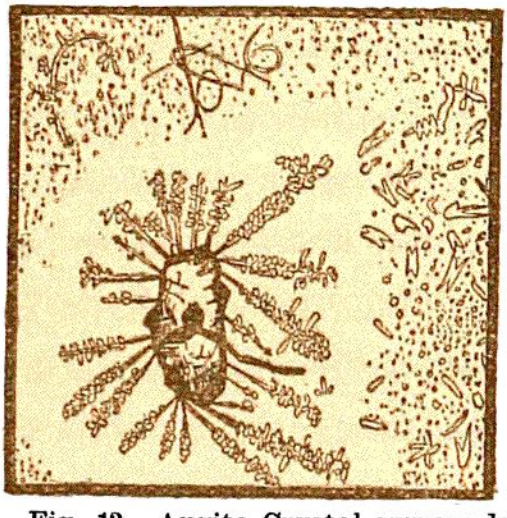

Fig. 13.—Augite Crystal surrounded by Crystallites and Microlites, from the vitreous Andesite of Eskdalemuir, magnified 800 Diameters.

Fig. 14.—Microlites of the Pitchstone of Arran, magnified 70 Diameters. (See p. 283.)

of crystallites and microlites are shown in some vitreous basalts. In Fig. 13, for example, the outer portion of the field displays crowded globulites and longulites as well as here and there a few belonites and some curved and coiled trichites. Round the rude augite crystal, these various