The Last Volume of the Pacific States Flora*—This volume contains an account of the representatives of the last thirteen families in the Englerian arrangement which are native to the States of Washington, Oregon and California. This monumental flora which was begun by the late Dr. Leroy Abrams is completed by his disciple Dr. Ferris, assisted by specialists in certain groups. The Compositae which accounts for five-sixths of the bulk of this volume is largely the inspiration of Dr. S. F. Blake who, on account of pressure of work, handed over his unfinished manuscript to Dr. Ferris.

The layout follows that of the earlier volumes, that is to say, descriptions of family characteristics is followed by generic key and within each genus, a key to species is followed by full synonymy and description of the species with habitat notes and type locality. In polymorphic species notes on forms and varieties are also included thus the information for amateur or expert may be described as very full indeed.

The illustrations, portraying habit and diagnostic features of each species, are generally of a high standard although that of *Senecio jacobaea* (fig. 5785) could give an erroneous impression of this species. Another criticism is that the arrangement of the drawings on the page and the arrangement of the captions at the foot of each do not coincide thus making the consultation of these drawings more complicated than necessary.

At the end of this volume there is a key to all the families that figure in the complete flora giving volume and page number of each. This is followed by comprehensive indexes of scientific and common names, the latter often being a direct translation of the former.

A. J. C. GRIERSON.

* Illustrated Flora of the Pacific States, Volume IV, Bignonias to Sunflowers, by Roxana Stinchfield Ferris. Stanford, California. Stanford University Press, 1960. Pp. 732. 1125 figs. Price 7 pounds.