Classica Botanica Americana. Under the editorship of Professor Joseph Ewan of Tulane University, Louisiana, a further volume in the Classica Botanica Americana series has recently been published. This is Volume VII* consisting of two facsimile volumes of Thomas Nuttall's "The Genera of North American Plants" published in 1818.

Nuttall was born in Yorkshire in 1786, emigrated to Philadelphia at the age of 22 and published his *Genera* ten years later. There is little doubt that despite one or two adverse comments, Nuttall's work was held in high esteem by his contemporaries and for a man of 32 it was surely a remarkable achievement.

One of the frequent delights of a facsimile edition is the introduction by some appropriate authority and in this Professor Ewan's contribution is no exception. His fund of knowledge of American botany and its personalia and his painstaking investigation for background knowledge is revealed in the 29 pages prefacing Nuttall's own work. Here we have, for example, information on some of the collectors and collections referred to by Nuttall; details of his own collections; a gazetteer of place names used in the *Genera*; and a chronology for Nuttall from 1786-1818.

The original publication was intended as a portable manual for students but the enlarged facsimile makes for easier handling. The difference between the price of $2 for the original and $32.50 for facsimile represents a not too unreasonable increase of approximately 20 cents a year!

L. A. LAUENER

* The Genera of North American Plants. By Thomas Nuttall. 2 vols. xxxvii, 312 pp (1818) 254 pp (1818). Reprint 1971. 9″. Hafner Publishing Company, New York. (Classica Botanica Americana, vol. 7, edited by Joseph Ewan). Price $32.50.