

- a.* Each mesepisternum with a small, superior, antehumeral, metallic green spot (young), or entirely black (in old age). Superior appendages of the male with an obtuse basal tooth, the median dilatation straight, terminating posteriorly by a distinct emargination or angle; inferiors somewhat S-shaped, divergent at tips, more than half as long as the superiors, reaching beyond the median dilatation thereof . . . . . 3. *sigma*.
- aa.* Each mesepisternum with a metallic green stripe one-sixth (or less) as wide as the mesepisternum itself, upper end usually a little widened. Superior appendages of the male with an acute basal tooth and a convex median dilatation on the inner side; inferiors almost as long as the superiors, reaching beyond the level of the apex of the median dilatation thereof . . . . . 4. *forficula*.
- aaa.* Each mesepisternum with a metallic green stripe one-third to one-fourth as wide as the mesepisternum itself, of nearly uniform width. Superior appendages of the male with the basal tooth not acute, median dilatation less convex; inferiors short, one-half as long as the superiors, not reaching to the apex of the median dilatation thereof. . . . . 5. *tenuatus*.

N.B.—Post-mortem discolorations occur frequently in *Lestes*, as in all pale-coloured Agrionidæ, and are liable to induce one to take them for natural black markings. Their true character is to be recognized by their usual asymmetry on the two sides, their slightly paler hue when compared with undoubted black marks, and by comparison of a series of individuals of the same species.

### 1. *Lestes alacer*. (Tab. III. fig. 26.)

*Lestes alacer*, Hagen, Syn. Neur. N. Am. p. 67 (1861)<sup>1</sup>; Selys, Bull. Acad. Belg. (2) xiii. p. 304 (1862)<sup>2</sup>; Kirby, Cat. Odon. p. 161 (1890)<sup>3</sup>.

*Hab.* UNITED STATES, Arizona (*C. U. lot* 35, *M. C. Z.*: 1 ♂, 8 ♀), San Gerónimo, New Mexico (*Gulick, P. P. C. det.*), Pecos River<sup>1 2</sup> and Round Mountain, Blanco Co. [6 ♂], Texas [1 ♂, 1 ♀] (*A. N. S.*).—MEXICO, Tlalnepantla (*Barrett, coll. P. P. C.*: 1 ♂, 1 ♀, teneral), Tacuba (*coll. McLachlan*: 1 ♂, 1 ♀; *Barrett, coll. P. P. C.*: 1 adult ♀, 1 teneral ♂), city of Mexico (*Dr. Rogers, M. C. Z.*: 1 ♂; *Forrer*: 1 ♂; *H. H. Smith*: 4 ♀), Santa Fé [1 ♂], Eslava [1 ♂] (*Barrett, coll. P. P. C.*), Uruapam in Michoacan (*coll. Deam*: 2 ♀), Cholula (*coll. Deam*: 1 ♀), Cuernavaca (*Barrett, coll. P. P. C.*: 1 ♀), Orizaba<sup>2</sup> (*H. H. Smith & Godman*: 1 ♀); GUATEMALA, Guatemala city 5000 feet (*Salvin, coll. McLachlan*: 1 ♂, 1 ♀; *M. C. Z.*: 1 ♂, 1 ♀).

Hagen<sup>1</sup>, followed by de Selys<sup>2</sup>, speaks of the sides of the thorax having "a broad, fuscous, middle fascia." In 1899, I examined Hagen's type, a male from the "Pecos River, Texas," now in the Museum of Comparative Zoology at Cambridge, Mass., and came to the conclusion that this marking was probably due to discoloration after death, especially as I have observed similar dark post-mortem bands on some perfect males of the present material. The abdomen and both front wings of the type have