

*Neurolestes*, *Nesolestes* and *Protolestes*; none of these genera could fairly be thought to include our species." And "The even divergence of the principal sectors like rays and the even disposition of the supplementary sectors between them is why the venation (pl. IV, fig.4) forms the specific regular feature of a fan. (*rhypis* - the fan)". The name of the new genus was thus well chosen.

The name selected by Ris for the first species, now the type species, of the genus is an adjective derived from the latin *aculeus* – a thorn or sting and has to be changed in gender from *aculeata* to *aculeatus* because of the original incorrect spelling (Code 32 d ii) : the Greek word *lestes* (robber) is always masculine (sic). Ris had followed Selys ('father of odonatology') who, also in compound names, erroneously treated this word as feminine. Thus Selys induced others to make the same mistake: Hagen, for instance, originally used the correct gender, as seen in *Lestes alacer* Hagen, 1861; but this was cited with feminine termination as *Lestes alacris* in his collaborative work with E. DE SELYS LONGCHAMPS (1862, *Bull. Acad. r. Belg.* [III] 13: 304). Thus there are now many adjectival species-group names combined with generic names ending with *-lestes*, which were originally described with feminine gender. All these should now be corrected to masculine form.

This would seem to be the place to ask what happened to *Amphilestes*? In a long and detailed masterpiece on Megapodagrionidae by P. CALVERT (1913, *Proc. Acad. nat. Sci. Philad.*, 65:225-272) in relation to wing fossil fragments of *Phenacolestes*, a small footnote on page 258 points out that *Amphilestes* Owen has precedence over *Amphilestes* Selys. The name *Rhinagrion* was suggested for the latter, emphasizing the prominent epistome ("nose"). The former genus contains very early Mesozoic fossils that are fragments of the earliest mammals. They are probably Triconodont Marsupials, found in Europe and America and existing before the Dinosaurs had reached their peak, (F.E. BEDDARD, 1902, *The Cambridge Nat. Hist.*, 10, *Mammals*, pp. 99-100).

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STUDIES ON NEOTROPICAL PROTONEURIDAE. 9. *PHASMONEURA CIGANAE* SANTOS, CONSPECIFIC WITH *PHASMONEURA SANCTA* (HAGEN) COMB. N. (ZYGOPTERA)

When E.B. WILLIAMSON (1915a, *Proc. U.S. natn. Mus.* 48: 601-638; 1915b, *Ent. News* 27(1): 30-33) split the Selysian subgenus *Protoneura* into five genera, the correct identification of the 10 species referred by E. SELYS LONGCHAMPS (1886, *Mem. Cour. Acad. Belg.* 38: III+233 pp.) to this subgenus, became a challenge to the odonatologists. Thanks to the works of E.B. WILLIAMSON (1915a, loc.cit.); J. COWLEY & L.K. GLOYD (1938, *Occ. Pap. Mus. Zool. Univ. Mich.* 378: 1-18); M.J. WESTFALL (1964, *Quart. J. Fla Acad. Sci.* 17(2): 111-119); and A.B.M. MACHADO (1984, *Odonatologica* 13(4): 585-589; 1985, *ibidem* 14(3): 211-217; 1985, *ibidem* 14(4): 363-368), most of these species can now be identified with certainty. However, the identity of *Protoneura sancta* Hagen in Selys, placed by E.B. WILLIAMSON (1915a, loc.cit.) in his genus *Psaironeura*, remained problematic since its original diagnosis is very laconic and lacks illustrations. The species has been described based on a single female from "Lagoa Santa (Venezuela), par Lund" — an obvious mistake, later corrected by SELYS (1886, loc.cit.) to "Laboa Santa (Brésil) par Lund". Indeed this is one of the few examples of a dragonfly collected by the famous Danish paleontologist Peter Wilhelm Lund who, in the middle of the last century, lived in Lagoa Santa, a village situated about 50 km N of Belo Horizonte, Minas Gerais. The vegetation around Lagoa Santa by the time Lund lived there was studied in detail by the Danish botanist Eugenio Warming. It consisted mainly of cerrado (a sort of savanna) and small forested areas in valleys and along the rivers. Although the cerrado still exists, the forest has been almost completely destroyed. In order to try obtaining topotypes of *P. sancta*, for several years we have looked for protoneurids, mainly along the rivers and streams of this region, finding only *Peristicta aeneoviridis* and three species of *Neoneura*. Finally, within a small forest remnant at Fazenda Jaguara, not far from Lagoa Santa, we found a population of *Phasmoneura ciganae* Santos, in a shady rivulet with marshy banks. This finding and a good agreement of *P. ciganae* females with the laconic de-