

CHALMERS' OBSERVATIONS.**Hibernating.**

It is an old and partly true saying that "people become like those they live amongst"; and, don't you think, Mr. Editor that such is the case with this correspondent, seeing his pen has been silent for considerable time? Well, like the bees, I have been spending the winter in quiet, but got partly wakened up on March 5th, when an ideal bee-day struck us, which allowed the bees their first 1910 flight, and a grand day it was for that very important occasion; but let me tell you that when the March number of C. B. J. arrived, I got completely aroused from my slumbers when I read that contribution from Mr. Orel Hershiser on "Making and Clarifying Beeswax."

Beeswax.

I was delighted to see and read that article written from Kenmore, N. Y., by Orel L. Hershiser in March Canadian Bee Journal. I fancy I know considerable about rendering wax, but know that I don't know it all, and now since we are favored with some of Mr. Hershiser's views on this vexed question, I am in hopes that we will "ken" more about it before we get through with this man from Kenmore.

I am, as he says in **need of and seeking for** information on this important subject." Some points we agree on whilst on others we differ, the greatest point of difference being in the efficacy of steam or hot water as applied in extracting the wax from the slumgum. Mr. H. says on page 75, first column about half way down. "It seems to be almost universally conceded now that the steam press, when economically operated, will leave in the slumgum a large percentage of wax that is easily obtainable with the hot water press," etc. I readily admit that **all** the wax cannot be got out of the slumgum by the use of steam and pressure, for I can

detect small specks therein, but I would not be afraid to exchange slumgum with Mr. Hershiser after being treated by each of our pet systems and undertake to take as much wax out of his as he would out of mine. Now, don't forget that I am admitting that there is still wax left after my process so much so that the slumgum makes fairly good fuel, and, yet, I take fully 50 per cent in weight out of a given quantity of old comb.

We must not condemn the cold press from the fact that it has been a stepping stone from no press at all to where we are now. Some 12 years ago I called on Mr. F. A. Gemmil (then of Stratford), to get advice about a press, and he very kindly gave me all the information he saw fit; the consequence was I went home and constructed a press and soon had it at work in the kitchen. The box into which the pressed wax was to drop and be led into a container, was only about 4 inches deep, consequently when the press had three or four layers of cheeses of slumgum in for pressing, some of them were considerably above said box, and just fancy as the pressure would be increased from time to time there was "trouble in the camp" caused through the wax cooling on the canvas which contained the slumgum, then little apertures would be forced open and what happened? Well the melted wax would shoot here and there all over the room as if squirted from as many syringes. This I saw could be remedied by using a deeper box, but a deeper box wouldn't prevent the wax from cooling on the canvas, so I set too in the winter of 1905-6 to construct a box in which to use either steam or hot water while pressing; when working it out I had occasion to write Mr. G. A. Deadman, of Brussels, Ont., and incidentally told him that I was getting up a wax press. In reply Mr. D. advised me to "go slow as there was a new press coming out. This I afterwards learned was the Hershiser press. I made Mr. Wm. Mc-

Evoy a visit that winter and he was just home from the Convention which he had been in Chicago, and at which I had read a paper on "wax extracting their faults," in which I had explained the water system of separating the slumgum. Mr. D. caught the idea correct that when the press there was a contrivance to stir up the substance and understand now why Hershiser's writings on it depend on the hot water again soaking the slumgum to release the pressure. It is all in Mr. E's explanation that slumgum is once having a little

As stated above I have decided in which either steam or hot water be used, and do admit that steam are, as yet, so my opinion can, however, make a difference with steam.

My press is probably not yet put on the market, and its workings and Hershiser will tell us more about the nature C. B. J. how he

To begin with I purchased a power boiler at a cost of \$10.00. I ate steam for rendering hives, frames, etc., without vent; could heat water in spring if necessary peace "brosed."

From said boiler I piped five different points. I keepers I don't boil my steam throughout in the press. I have a large tin box and 29 inches deep, in four racks. Those racks out of the heaviest tin, 20 inches square with high, said railing formi-