

In 1862, Mr. Wurtele returned to Montreal, and for four years was chief clerk in the seignorial commission, his first law partner, Mr. Judah, being the chief commissioner. While thus engaged, he was charged with an investigation into the difficulties between the seignioress of Rigaud and a number of her censitaires, and on the adoption of his report by the Government, he was entrusted with the settlement of the matter and received a public expression of the thanks of the parties interested. In connection with the settlement of affairs consequent on the abolition of the seignorial tenure, he went to Beauharnois and remained there for two years; during his stay in Beauharnois he was president of the local board of health, and was made and acted as J.P.

He was connected in the practice of his profession with Hon. J. J. C. Abbott from 1866 to 1868, in the latter year forming a partnership with Frederick T. Judah. His firm of Judah and Wurtele was the solicitor of the Trust and Loan Company of Canada, the largest landed credit institution in the Dominion. He was created a Queen's Counsel in 1873.

In 1878 he entered into partnership with Désiré Girouard, Q.C., D.C.L., the M.P., for Jacques Cartier.

We learn from a work entitled, "Montreal, its History, with Biographical Sketches," that at the time the abolition of the seignorial tenure was agitated, Mr. Wurtele acted as secretary of the association of seigniors formed to secure, by co-operation, a fair indemnity, which, by the aid of very able counsel, they succeeded in doing. The Bill before the Legislature, to which exceptions were taken, was modified and the Seignorial Act of 1854 was passed, doing justice to the seigniors and to the censitaires. And here we may add that Mr. Wurtele is the last Canadian seignior who rendered fealty and homage, he doing so on the 3rd of February, 1854, between the hands of his Excellency Lieut.-General Rowan, administrator of the Government.

On the completion of the Cadastres for his seignories of Bourg Marie de l'Est and Rivière David, the seigneurial pew, which he had surrendered, was granted to him and his wife for life by a public vote of the parish, as a testimony of the good feeling existing between the censitaires and himself.

Mr. Wurtele was appointed a lecturer on commercial law in McGill university, in 1867; received the honorary degree of B.C.L. from the same institution in 1870, and the next year was appointed associate professor of commercial law, with the Hon. J. J. C. Abbott, whose pressing professional duties interfered with his lecturing. On Mr. Abbott's nomination as a governor, in 1880, he succeeded to the professorship of commercial law.

Mr. Wurtele has been for many years honorary counsel of the German Society of Montreal.

He was first elected to Parliament for his present seat in 1875, and was re-elected, after the dismissal of the De Boucherville administration by a majority of 810 in May, 1878, his politics being Liberal Conservative. In the Legislature he has devoted his attention to legislation; and has carried through many measures of importance. He is every session intrusted with