

An Act respecting joint securities for Seed Grain
Indebtedness in Manitoba and the North-West Ter-
ritories.

Preamble.

WHEREAS, in Manitoba and the North-West Territories,
the sum of \$153,602.67 is due the Government, for seed
grain advances, by five thousand three hundred and eighty-
four farmers,—this number standing in the securities as prin-
cipals for this liability, four thousand six hundred and forty-
three being liable as bondsmen for others, and three thousand
four hundred and thirty-nine of these standing in the double
relation of principal debtors and bondsmen for others ;
whereas many who stand in this double relationship are ready
and willing to pay their personal liability, and feel it a hard-
ship, a hindrance and sometimes an expense to have the
indebtedness of their neighbour registered against their per-
sonal homestead, knowing at the same time that the person for
whom they stand surety is able but is not willing to pay his
liability ; and whereas the average sum due the Government by
these five thousand three hundred and eighty-four farmers may
not exceed fifty dollars, and the double security registered
against the patents of the two farms seems to be excessive and
unnecessary to secure the Government against loss for such
sums advanced : Therefore Her Majesty, by and with the
advice and consent of the Senate and the House of Commons
of Canada, enacts as follows :—

1. The homestead or quarter section of land in the posses-
sion of the principal debtor for seed grain advances shall be
regarded and held for all time sufficient security for such
indebtedness in each case.

Land of
debtor to be
security.

2. On and after the first day of July, 1899, the four thousand
six hundred and forty-three farmers mentioned in the preamble,
who stand in the relation of bondsmen for seed grain advances
shall cease to be responsible as bondsmen, and such joint
securities for seed grain shall be null and void.

Discharge of
bondsmen.