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No. 16.

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4th Session, 8th Parliament, 62 Victoria, 1899

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BILL

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

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First reading, March 29, 1899.

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Mr. DOUGLAS.

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OTTAWA

Printed by S. E. DAWSON  
Printer to the Queen's most Excellent Majesty  
1899

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

Preamble.

**W**HEREAS, 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.