

C A P. II.

An Act for the relief of the Poor in the loan of Wheat and other Seed Corn.

[3d April, 1833.]

Preamble.

WHEREAS a great number of Farmers who have suffered by the failure of the Harvest of the last year, have consumed or may consume for their support during the present Winter, the grain required for sowing their Lands and such as are able to spare seed would not be willing to lend it to the poor without indisputable security for the payment thereof at the next ensuing Harvest : Be it therefore enacted by the King's Most Excellent Majesty, by and with the advice and consent of the Legislative Council and Assembly of the Province of Lower-Canada, constituted and assembled by virtue of, and under the authority of an Act passed in the Parliament of Great-Britain, intituled, " An Act to repeal certain parts of an Act passed in the fourteenth year of His Majesty's Reign, intituled, "*An Act for making more effectual provision for the Government of the Province of Quebec in North-America,*" and to make further provision for the Government of the said Province," And it is hereby enacted by the authority of the same, that every debt contracted from this time to the twenty-fifth day of June next, by act, contract or engagement in writing, made in good faith and for the purpose of procuring Wheat, Peas, Oats, or other seed grain or potatoes for seed, before a Notary, a Justice of the Peace, the Rector, (*Curé*) of the Parish, or a Captain of Militia, and one credible witness, for any quantity not greater than twenty minots of Wheat, thirty minots of other grain, and twenty minots of Potatoes, and which shall not exceed the said quantities for any one purchaser or borrower, shall be deemed and considered by all Courts of Law, to be a privileged debt, and the Seller or Lender of such Grain or Potatoes, shall be preferred to any other Creditor whomsoever, any law, custom, or usage to the contrary notwithstanding, excepting only the Rights of His Majesty, his heirs and successors.

Contracts and agreements made from this time to 25th June next, deemed a privileged debt.

Saving of the King's Rights.

Limitation of the privilege.

II. Provided always, and be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid, that the privilege given by this Act shall not, under any pretext, be claimed or acknowledged beyond one year after the first day of June next.