

The Provincial Statutes of Lower-Canada, Being the first session of the ninth Provincial Parliament of Lower-Canada. Quebec: P. E. Desbarats, Printer to the King's Most Excellent Majesty, 1817.

57 George III – Chapter 1

An Act for the relief of the Poor, in the Loan of Seed Wheat, and other necessary Grain. (8th March, 1817.)

Whereas many Farmers distressed by the short Harvest of the last Year, have consumed for their support during the present year, what was necessary for their next feed; and such as are able to spare feed for their supplies, may not be willing to trust it to the poorer inhabitants, without indisputable security for the payment thereof, at the next ensuing Harvest: In tenderness therefore to the distressed, Be it enacted, by the King's Most Excellent Majesty, by and with the 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 of 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 any Contract or agreement which shall after the passing of this Act, and before the twenty-fifth day of June next, be bona fide made in writing for supplies of Wheat, Pease, Oats, or any other Seed, Corn, or Potatoes, in the presence of a Notary Public, or one of His Majesty's Justices of the Peace, or a Curate of any Parish, or, a Captain of the Militia, and one other credible Witness, for any quantity of Seed Corn, not exceeding Forty minots of Wheat, and Thirty minors of other Bread, Com, or Grain; nor Twenty minots of Potatoes, to any one Buyer or Borrower, his Debt therefore shall in all Courts, be deemed and adjudged to be a privileged Debt, with the benefit of preference to the Vender or Lender, before any other Creditor, for any demand of any kind whatsoever, any Law, usage, or custom to the contrary notwithstanding; laving nevertheless to His Majesty, His Heirs and Successors, all the rights of the Crown, with its dues and demands, as full and effectually as if this Act had never been made.