

(1) Number of pages 20
(2) Date of repair 6.5.1981
(3) Initials of the Referencer _____

TAMIL NADU ARCHIVES

GOVERNMENT OF TAMIL NADU

REVENUE DEPARTMENT

G.O. No.	4029-REV.	Press.
B.P. No.		Mis.
Dated	19.7.1877.	197 .

Not to be folded or roughly handled

1/4029

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department,
5th April 1877.

No. 122. Read the following Proceedings of the Madras Government in the Financial Department, dated 27th March 1877, No. 1,086 :—

Read the following letter from A. McC. WEBSTER, Esq., Acting Commissioner of the Nilgiris, to the Hon. D. F. CARMICHAEL, Officiating Chief Secretary to Government, Fort St. George, dated 22nd March 1877, No. 31.

With reference to your Official Memorandum, No. 288, of the 7th ultimo,

Orange Valley.

- | | |
|-----------------|---------------------|
| 1. Kookulturai. | 9. Billicombay. |
| 2. Seegola. | 10. Onpatholay. |
| 3. Nericombay. | 11. Nellimund. |
| 4. Yaduyar. | 12. Thenanhatti. |
| 5. Thagali. | 13. Siriyar. |
| 6. Kookul Oor. | 14. Ebbanad. |
| 7. Kugguchi. | 15. Chinna Coonoor. |
| 8. Ogilhatti. | |

Musnagoody Villages.

- | | |
|-----------------|-----------------|
| 1. Hoondae. | 4. Basthipuram. |
| 2. Kurkanullee. | 5. Karuballee. |
| 3. Kateepuram. | 6. Mairnulla. |

I have the honor to report that, with the exception of the marginally-noted villages in the Orange Valley, which formed the subject of my letter to Board of 27th ultimo, No. 13, and in the villages near Musnagoody, the Badagas have a sufficient supply of seed-grain.

2. The cultivated area in the affected locality last year was 2,000 acres and in the vicinity of Musnagoody 1,000 acres. The cultivators in these localities have no seed-grain and no

money to purchase it at Hassanur, the only available market. The Badaga cultivators tell me that they require twenty-five Madras measures of seed-ragi or samay for one acre. This appears to be an extraordinary waste of seed, but it is the custom of the country. I should think ten measures per acre ample, and beg to request the sanction of Government to advancing them in money half the value of seed-grain at this rate, repayable in three annual instalments. The sum required is Rs. 2,000. For the villages near Musnagoody the seed-grain required is less, and is estimated to cost Rs. 1,000. I have the honor to request sanction to making an advance to the ryots up to this amount, or a total for both tracts of Rs. 3,000.

I have the honor to request early orders on this proposal, as owing to the recent copious rain in the affected locality ploughing has commenced, and seed-grain will be required in a fortnight or three weeks.

The payment of an advance of Rs. (3,000) three thousand will be disposed of in the Revenue Department.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) D. F. CARMICHAEL,
Offg. Chief Secretary.

No. 123. ORDER THEREON, 5th April 1877, No. 1,336.

Miscellaneous.

Communicated to the Board of Revenue.

2. Reports from other districts have already been communicated; and while at Trichinopoly, His Grace the Governor was informed of twenty villages in Madura where seed would be required by the ryots.

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department,
5th April 1877.*

3. The Board will dispose of this and all similar reports or applications; with authority to direct the necessary disbursements, which, it is observed, can be recovered like arrears of revenue.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) D. F. CARMICHAEL,
Offg. Chief Secretary.

To the Board of Revenue.
,, the Financial Department.

Exd. A. F. Goodall.

3
4029

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.

REVENUE DEPARTMENT.

12th June 1877, No. 1,972-A.

Famine Relief.

Read the following paper:—

No. 244-A. Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, dated 6th June 1877.

Read the following letter from J. H. MASTER, Esq., Collector of Bellary, to H. E. STOKES, Esq., Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated Nagalore, 16th April 1877, No. 277.

With reference to the Government official memorandum (confidential), No. 277, dated 7th February last,* calling for a report as to the probable positions

of the ryots at the opening of the next cultivation season in regard to seed-grain, I have the honor to state that generally it may be supposed that ryots paying an assessment above Rs. 30 have seed-grain for next year and those who cultivate wet lands under the Toongabudra river have paddy seed, and indeed seed of all kinds sufficient for their requirements. The position of the other ryots is not very encouraging, for they have neither the seed nor the means to purchase it.

2. As regards cotton seed, the sowing of which bears a large proportion to the total sowings of other grain, it will all have to be imported, for the seed is required to be freshly picked; seed a year old even will not germinate properly.

3. The well-to-do section of the agricultural population however doubtless have the usual reserve, from whom the poorer ones can take loans to be returned in kind or its equivalent money value. Many of the holders of very considerable stocks that will outlast the famine will combine the avocations of farmer and money-lender. After sowing their own lands they will have both the means and inclination to advance to their poorer neighbours a sufficiency of seed.

4. The terms of such advances will, I suppose, be severer than usual. The smaller so-called ryots are normally in such a state of servitude of debts to the substantial landholders, that I do not think their position will eventually be worse than before. But I fear that many who, before the recent failure of crops, enjoyed the position of independent farmers will drop into the grade of mere agricultural laborers.

From the same Officer, dated Ramandroog, 2nd June 1877.

REFERRING to the Proceedings of the Board, No. 1,574, dated the 9th April 1877, I have the honor to report that I have asked each divisional officer to state roughly what sums he is likely to require for advances for seed-grain and for the purchase of cattle.

2. I have not yet received replies from all, but I do not like to wait further. I would request that the Board will be pleased to recommend that a sum of five lakhs be for the present placed at my disposal, and I earnestly request that advances be allowed generally for the purchase of cattle as well as for grain at the divisional officers' discretion.

SUBMITTED for the orders of Government, as the Board do not consider that G.O., 5th April 1877, No. 1,336, enables them to dispose of this application, which relates to advances for the purchase of cattle as well as for the purchase of seed.

Govt. of 11877 } Madras.

REVENUE.

THE BOARD OF REVENUE,

Secy. Secy. Secy.

Dated April, 6th.

Recd.

Encl.

G.O., 5th April 1877, No. 1,336.

APRIL.

No. 122-123.

Seed-grain.—Communicating to Revenue Board letter from Commissioner of Nilgiris requesting sanction for payment of Rs. 3,000 to the ryots for —, and attaching Board to sanction the same.



1-16

2. The Board much doubt whether any advances for either purpose are really necessary, and they are most decidedly of opinion that before Government embark in any such operations, much stronger proof of their necessity should be awaited. They believe that there is an ample stock of seed-grain in the country and that the poorer ryots who have not got any will have no difficulty in obtaining it, and on no very onerous terms from the more well-to-do cultivators who have it. Such is the almost unanimous testimony of the district officers in the reports on the subject which have been communicated to the Board. In his letter of the 16th April, No. 277, read above, Mr. Master himself expressed the opinion that the poorer ryots would be able to obtain a sufficiency of seed though on terms somewhat severer than usual.

3. It would be now impossible to introduce from elsewhere any large supplies of seed-grain, and it is indeed doubtful whether if this were done the ryots would use the imported seed. Reliance must therefore be placed in the main on the stocks of seed in the possession of the richer ryots; and the poorer ones who may have none and who have any chance of being able to cultivate successfully will be able to borrow from those who have it. Evidently the well-to-do ryots of the village will be better able to judge of the solvency and capacity to cultivate of those who have to borrow seed-grain than any Government officers would be.

4. The resources of the richer ryots will, the Board have no doubt, be utilized this season to the full, whether on their own lands or on those of their neighbours over whom they will thus acquire a hold; and though the breadth of cultivation will doubtless be in next season to some extent contracted as compared with ordinary years, the Board doubt whether, under the operation of the proposed advances from Government, it would be materially increased. The probable result will be that anticipated by Mr. Master, viz., that some of those puttadars who have hitherto lived from hand to mouth will cease to be independent cultivators and will become agricultural laborers. Opinions may differ whether this is a result to be deprecated.

5. As to cattle, the case appears to the Board to be still stronger. All districts have suffered, and there will be no surplus of stock fit for agriculture exposed for sale. The non-agricultural stock have perished in larger numbers than the ploughing cattle, and such of them as remain are debilitated and unbroken to the plough, and but few could be fitted to be used for cultivating purposes in the coming season. Of the ploughing bullocks which remain, every beast will be fully used.

6. The Board for these reasons are of opinion that advances for the purchase of seed and cattle are of doubtful necessity and of doubtful advantage, and they are at any rate premature as yet. If it be now published abroad that Government are prepared to give advances in money to puttadars for the purpose, under whatever restrictions which can be devised, there will be no end to the applications and enormous sums will have to be disbursed. Of these, a large portion will be found ultimately irrecoverable. If seasonable rain falls within the next fortnight, cultivation will at once commence, and it will be easy to gauge the extent to which the considerations urged by the Board in the preceding paragraphs are entitled to weight. If the later months are favorable, land sown in July will still be safe to yield a crop; and it will be time enough in the middle of that month, should the cultivation returns for June prove the necessity of the measure, to inaugurate the system of money advances for seed. Such a system needs little preparation and can be started immediately on the issue of the order. It will be pretty certain that all whose own resources enable them to cultivate will, if the season permits, have commenced to cultivate by that time, and the delay in making the advance will operate as a most efficient system of selection of recipients.

(True Copies and Extract.)

(Signed) H. E. STOKES,
Secretary.

No. 244-B. ORDER THEREON, 12th June 1877, No. 1,972-A.

Miscellaneous.

THE Government concur with the Board in opinion that there is no present necessity for making advances to ryots to buy either seed-grain or ploughing cattle.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) J. H. GARSTIN,
Additional Secretary to Government.

To the Board of Revenue.
„ the Financial Department.

Exd. E. C. Shunker.

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.

REVENUE DEPARTMENT.

3rd July 1877, No. 2,202.

Famine Relief.

Read the following paper :—

No. 86. Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, dated 12th June 1877.

Read the following letter from C. T. LONGLEY, Esq., Collector of Salem, to H. E. STOKES, Esq., Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated Ahtur, 9th June 1877, S.N. No. 1,808.

I HAVE the honor to inform the Board that Major Baynes has to-day reported to me that, though there has been a very fair fall of rain throughout the Daram-puri Taluq, some of the poorer ryots have not been able to commence their agricultural operations owing to want of cattle and seed-grains. Considering the condition of the taluq, I do not doubt that the majority of the poorer ryots are in a great need of help to enable them to begin their cultivation, and that if they are not provided with funds for the purchase of cattle and seed-grains, another season of distress will be in store for them.

2. In G.O., dated 5th April 1877, No. 1,336, sanction has been accorded to make advances for the purchase of seed-grain, subject to the orders of the Board ; but as the seed-grains will not be of much use for the ryots, until they have filled and prepared the ground for sowing, I beg that the above sanction be extended for the purchase of cattle also.

3. As, however, time is most precious, I have, in anticipation of sanction, directed the Tahsildar of Darampuri to make advances to the most needy ryots, paying an assessment of Rs. 50 and under for the purchase of cattle and seed-grains, and request that the Board will be pleased to approve my action.

ORDERED that the following telegram be despatched to the Collector :—

"Your No. 1,808.

"Agricultural advances under consideration of Government. Stop at once, pending further orders, advances cattle and seed in Darampuri, and report in detail what you have done, stating rates of advance and amounts given."

2. These Proceedings will be submitted to Government with reference to Board's Proceedings, dated 6th June 1877, No. 2,636.

(A true Copy and Extract.)

(Signed) H. E. STOKES,
Secretary.

No. 87.

ORDER THEREON, 3rd July 1877, No. 2,202.

Miscellaneous.

THE Board's Proceedings are approved, but the Government trust that, with reference to G.O., No. 1,336 of April, 5th the Board will continue to direct their attention to the question of advances for seed-grain.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) J. H. GARSTIN,
Additional Secretary to Government.

To the Board of Revenue.
" the Financial Department.

Esd. A. Grubert.

Advances to Ryots for purchase of Seed-grains and ploughing cattle in Ballary District.—Continuing with the Board of Revenue in opinion that there is no present necessity for making—

FAMINE RELIEF, No. 1382-A.

Nos. 214-A—214-B.

JUNE.

G.O., 12th June 1877, No. 1,972-A.

Recd.

Printed 25th.

Entered in M.S. 16th.

Dated June, 13th.

Ac. Ac. Ac.

THE BOARD OF REVENUE.

REVENUE.

Govt. of (1877) Madras.

6
4029

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.
REVENUE DEPARTMENT.

3rd July 1877, No. 2,207-A.

Famine Relief.

Read the following paper:—

No. 98-A. Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, dated 19th June 1877, No. 2,886.

Read the following letter from C. T. LONGLEY, Esq., Collector of Salem, to H. E. STOKES, Esq., Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated Ahtoor, 14th June 1877, S.N. No. 1,863:—

WITH reference to your telegram, dated 12th instant, received at Salem on the 13th and which has reached me this morning (14th), I have the honor to inform you that I have withdrawn my order to the Tahsildar of Darampuri authorizing him to make advances for the purchase of cattle and seed grains. I ordered the Tahsildar (who is an intelligent and careful officer) to restrict the advances to the amount of the assessment of the ryots receiving them, and to give the advances only on their executing an agreement binding themselves to repay the same within two years. I have now called upon the Tahsildar to report to me in how many cases and to what extent the advances have been made, and shall communicate the same to the Board on receipt of his reply.

2. As the subject of the advances is under the consideration of the Government, I think it necessary that they should be informed of the condition of the ryots at this season of cultivation. I, therefore, beg to enclose copy of Major Baynes' letter giving a description of the same on which I felt constrained to take immediate action, and of another letter from the Acting Sub-Collector, Mr. Wilkinson, representing a similar state of things.

ENCLOSURE No. 1.

From Major C. D. BAYNES, in charge State Relief Works, Darampuri, to C. T. LONGLEY, Esq., Collector of Salem, dated Palcode, 6th June 1877, No. 203-134.

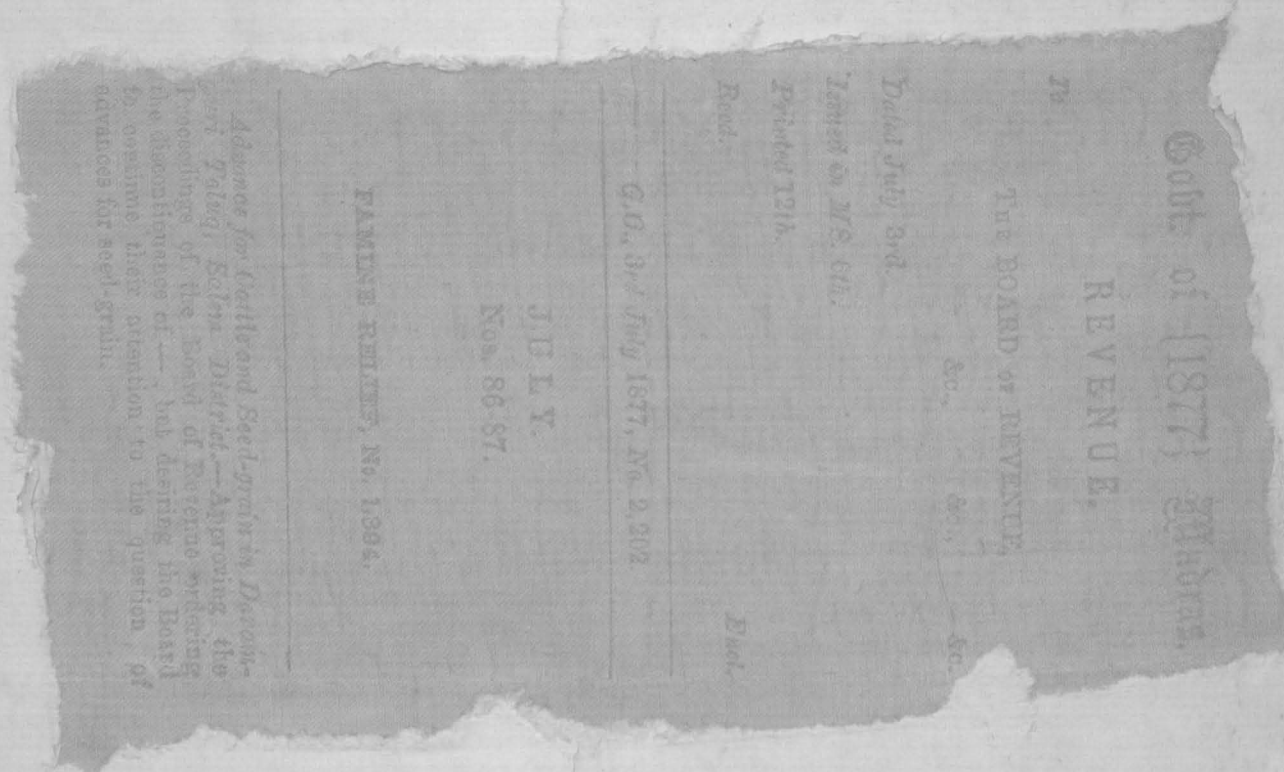
I HAVE the honor to bring to your notice the following facts:—

1. For the last fortnight copious showers have fallen over the whole of the taluk, especially during the last week: the ground is saturated to the depth of 15 and 18 inches, and nearly every tank has had a month's supply of water, and the weather at present has assumed quite the appearance of that prevalent during the monsoon.

2. But this opportunity for shortening the duration of the present distress by the sowing of rape and cumboo crops has been almost wasted, as not one-third of available land is under crop or even prepared for the reception of seed.

3. In every village I visit I find the ryots in a condition of idle despair, because they have neither cattle, nor seed, nor fodder: they generally state they cannot even borrow money to purchase bullocks as their lands have passed out of their possession, having been sold outright or mortgaged beyond redemption: to provide their immediate want, they certainly have neither cattle nor means of supporting the number of bullocks required for agricultural purposes, seeing that the thatch from most of the houses has already been consumed in the maintenance of the few cattle that are yet in existence.

4. Consequently this weather, so favorable for agricultural operations, has had no effect in diminishing the number of small landholders who have hitherto been supporting themselves by labor on relief-works nor in averting future distress.



Revenue Department, 3rd July 1877, No. 2,207-A.

5. This state of affairs is pregnant with most calamitous results: two kinds of the dry crops, which should now be some inches above ground, have not even been sown, and, if immediate steps be not taken to have the soil tilled and sown before the approach of the monsoon which is now imminent, there will not only be a limit to the present distress, but it will assume a magnitude beyond control.

6. I beg to suggest that the presence of a Revenue Officer of experience with plenary powers to make ryots the advances necessary to procure bullocks and seed is urgently required to avert further calamity or that the wealthy men who have bought up the lands should be compelled to cultivate them. As indicative of the great demand for bullocks for agricultural purposes, I may mention that the hire of the grain cart from Morupoor to Darampuri has risen from Rupees 1-8-0 to Rupees 3-8-0.

(True Copy.)

(Signed) C. T. LONGLEY,
Collector.

ENCLOSURE No. 2.

From F. WILKINSON, Esq., Acting Sub-Collector, to C. T. LONGLEY, Esq., Collector of Salem, dated Royacottah, 8th June 1877, S.N. No. 548.

RAIN has now fallen in all parts of the sub-division and those ryots who have cattle and who are able to purchase seed grain have commenced to plough and put down oil, cumboo, and other crops. Meanwhile cultivation is seriously impeded by the want of ploughing cattle, and, unless the ryots are helped to purchase, I apprehend a serious falling off in the cultivated area. I have called upon each Tahsildar for a careful report on this subject, but it will take some time before reports are received, and it would, I submit, be well if the matter were at once laid before Government in the hope of their sanctioning some measure of relief to the destitute and poorest ryots who have not a pie wherewith to purchase either seed or cattle.

(True Copy.)

(Signed) C. T. LONGLEY,
Collector.

SUBMITTED to Government.

2. The Board observe that in G.O., No. 1,972-A, dated 12th June 1877, Government have ruled that it is not expedient at present to grant advances for cultivation. If advances limited by the amount of assessment were made to the ryots, the expenditure would evidently be enormous. The description by Major Baynes of the state of apathetic despair into which the Darampuri ryots have fallen is scarcely consistent with the rise in the rate of bandy-hire between Mallapuram and Darampuri, from Rupees 1-8-0 to Rupees 3-8-0, owing to demand for draught-cattle for the ploughs. Looking at the distance, some 16 miles, the former rate is not so high as to indicate very great scarcity of cattle, and the rise must be due to those which were available being now fully employed in ploughing.

3. The Collector's further report as to amount of advances made is awaited.

(True Copies and Extract.)

(Signed) H. E. STOKES,
Secretary.

No. 98-B.

ORDER THEREON, 3rd July 1877, No. 2,207-A.

Miscellaneous.

RECORDED with reference to G.O.,
No. 2,202, of 3rd July 1877.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) J. H. GARSTIN,
Additional Secretary to Government.

To the Board of Revenue.
,, the Financial Department.

Exd. A. Grubert.

7
w29

8
4029

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.
REVENUE DEPARTMENT.

9th July 1877, No. 2,260-A.

Famine Relief.

Read the following paper:—

No. 207-A. Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, dated 29th June 1877.
Read the following letter from C. T. LONGLEY, Esq., Collector of Salem, to
H. E. STOKES, Esq., Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated 23rd June
1877, S.N. No. 340-1933.

In continuation of my letter, No. 1,863, dated 14th instant, I have the honor
to inform the Board that no advances have as yet been made in any taluq to the
cultivators for the purchase of seed-grain and cattle.

SUBMITTED to Government in continuation of Board's Proceedings, dated
19th June, No. 2,886.

(A true Copy and Extract.)
(Signed) C. A. GALTON,
Sub-Secretary.

No. 207-B. ORDER THEREON, 9th July 1877, No. 2,260-A.

Miscellaneous.

THE Government trust that the
Board and Collector are carefully watch-
ing this important matter, and that the

former are using, where necessary, the discretion vested by Government in them
as regards seed-grain.

(True Extract.)
(Signed) J. H. GARSTIN,
Additional Secretary to Government.

To the Board of Revenue.
,, the Financial Department.

Ed. A. F. Goodall.

Govt. of 1877, 333 ADTAS.
REVENUE.
THE BOARD OF REVENUE,
No. 98-A-68-B.
JULY.
FAMINE RELIEF No. 1399-A.
C.O. 3rd July 1877, No. 2,207-A.
Printed 13th.
Issued in MS. G.A.
Dated July 3rd.
Advances for purchase of Cattle and Seed-grain
in Dorempy Taluk, Salem District. — Recording
Proceedings of the Board of Revenue on the
question of — with reference to G.O. 3rd July
1877, No. 2,202.

Revenue Department
No: 3249. ^{9/11/029}
Proceedings of the Board of Rev.
dated 11th July 1877

Read Proceedings of the
Madras Government dated
9th July 1877 no: 2260 A. passing
remarks on Board's Proceedings
submitting letter from the Collector
of Salem reporting that no
advances have been made
in any Salueg for the purchase
of seed grain and cattle.

Communicated to the Collector
of Salem.

2. The Board have already
expressed their views as regards
the advisability of inaugurating
a general system of advances
for

Cost. of (1877) 374133.

REVENUE.

To THE BOARD OF REVENUE.

Rs. Ls. P.

Dated July 9th.

Issued in MS. 106.

Printed 194.

Recd.

G.O. 944 July 1877. No. 2,260 A.

JULY.

Nos. 207 A-207 B.

FAMINE RELIEF, No. 1430 E.

Advances for purchase of Seed grain and
Cattle in Salem District. — Expressing a hope, with
reference to Board's Proceedings reporting that
no — have been made, that the Board and Collec-
tor are carefully watching this important matter;
and that the Board are using, where necessary,
the discretion vested in them as regards seed
grain.

for seed grain, and the
franchisement in their order
of the 12th June no: 1972 it
signified their concurrence.

Any representations which
may be made on the
subject will be carefully
considered and the Board
will not hesitate to grant
such assistance in this
direction as may be asked
for, if necessity appears.

/ True & Co

S^r C. A. Gatton
Gatton
Ag: Secretary

To Mr. Collett

/ True & Co /
10/409

Ag: Secretary

To the Ag: Secretary to Govt
12/10

5.69 July 19 No 2024-29
- 12 June 19 No 244-2444

Rec. 11/7 Sept
7.2.5279

4029

Proceeding of the
Board of Revenue

21st July 1877.
Recd 13 -

No 4019 July 1877 No 2029

Re communicating
to the Revenue Bd. in
the subject of making ad-
- vances for the purchase of
land for the use of the
College of Calcutta.

19 July 1877

19 July 1877

21-7-1877