

[M. Paske Smith, British Consulate, Shimonoseki, to Sir William Conyngham
Greene, British Ambassador to Japan, Tokyo. Copy]

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Sir,

With reference to your memorandum of yesterday I have the honour to acknowledge the circumstances attending the arrival and departure of this post of the Japanese S.S. *Konagata* with a party of Indians on board for Vancouver B.C. to test the exclusion law of British Columbia. The *Konagata* was chartered by an Indian named Gurdit for six months from April 1st last from Hongkong. The charter money was to be £1,000 two per month, payment of £2,000 (two months charter money) to be made within fourteen days of the vessel's departure from Hongkong on the 30th April. The vessel arrived at Seattle on the 15th April in ^{the morning} and I believe to pick up various Indians who had come from Seattle. The charter contract advertised for the supply of 2,000 tons of coal, which would be enough to have the vessel steer to Vancouver and back to Japan. Very little was made but when asked for advance payment Gurdit was only able to pay for 1000 tons, which was supplied on the 15th April. He had sometimes the vessel's charter money of £2,000 but had become due and on being pressed for payment, £1,000 was sent by Gurdit's agents to the British Consulate in Seattle to be advanced here to his agents of Gurdit in 1900 and

Yours faithfully,
M. Paske Smith

The right Honourable
Sir W. Conyngham Greene Bt., G.C.B.
etc., etc., etc.,
Tokyo

IDENTIFIER
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ARTIST
Singh, Gurdit, 1858-1954