

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

RE 7 081 00311 4042 B

Dear Sir,

British Consulate,  
Shimonoseki,  
May 11 1894.

Sir,

With reference to your Ambassador's telegram 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 bound 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 24th April. The vessel arrived at Seattle on the 13th April in <sup>the morning</sup> 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 over 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 21st April. He had meantime the vessel started away at 10 AM but had become due and on being pressed for payment, \$5,000 was sent by Gurdit's agents to his representatives in Seattle here as to his two agents of Gurdit in 1890 are

Yours faithfully,  
M. Paske Smith

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

IDENTIFIER  
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ARTIST  
Singh, Gurdit, 1858-1954