

S A H I B

THE BRITISH SOLDIER IN INDIA

1750-1914

RICHARD HOLMES



CONTENTS

LIST OF ILLUSTRATIONS	ix
MAPS	xiii
INTRODUCTION	xxi
Prologue: Drums on the Sutlej	1
I. In India's Sunny Clime	21
<i>The Land of the Pagoda Tree</i>	23
<i>Empires Rise and Wane</i>	38
<i>The Honourable Company</i>	44
<i>'The Devil's Wind'</i>	70
<i>The British Raj</i>	80
II. The Troopships Bring Us	89
<i>A Passage to India</i>	91
<i>Something Strange to Us All</i>	110
<i>Sudder and Mofussil</i>	121
<i>Barracks and Bungalows</i>	138
<i>Calling Cards and Drawing Rooms</i>	146
<i>Boredom and Bat</i>	157
III. Bread and Salt	179
<i>Lords of War</i>	181
<i>Soldiers Without Regiments</i>	198
<i>Horse, Foot and Guns</i>	216
<i>Salt and Gold</i>	264

SAHIB

IV. The Smoke of the Fusillade	285
<i>Fields of Battle</i>	287
<i>Brothers in Arms?</i>	293
<i>Gold Epaulettes, Silver Medals</i>	316
<i>Dash at the First Party</i>	328
<i>Shot and Shell</i>	332
<i>Black Powder and Cold Steel</i>	342
<i>Boot and Saddle</i>	359
<i>The Pettah Wall</i>	374
<i>Dust and Blood</i>	402
V. India's Exiles	413
<i>Arrack and the Lash</i>	415
<i>Bibis and Memsahibs</i>	436
<i>Christian Soldiers</i>	458
<i>A Familiar Friend</i>	468
<i>Hot Blood, Bad Blood</i>	476
<i>A Noble Wife</i>	485
Epilogue	499
GLOSSARY	507
BIBLIOGRAPHY	513
ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS	525
NOTES	527
INDEX	551