

LIEUTENANT-COLONEL SIDNEY BROWNING SMITH

(1866-1930). C.M.G., I.M.S., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P. (Eng.), D.P.H. (Lond.). - Chief Plague Officer, the Punjab (1902-1912).

Sidney Browning Smith (1866-1930) [Epsom College 1877-1884] was the son of Dr Thomas Browning Smith, M.D., of Sittingbourne, Kent. From Epsom College he entered St Bartholomew's Hospital and qualified M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P. (Eng.) in 1890. He subsequently took the D.P.H. of the London Colleges in 1910. When he entered the Indian Medical Service as Surgeon (1891), he was a member of the last term who entered Netley under that title, before the grant of compound titles. At Netley he gained the Parkes Memorial Medal for Hygiene. He then moved to India, took part in the Chitral campaign (1895) and saw action at Chakalwat and Nisa Ghol. He was mentioned in dispatches, and received the frontier medal with a clasp. From 1901 until the end of 1902 he took part in the Waziristan campaign. He then entered civil employment in the Punjab, serving first as the Plague Medical Officer at Amritsar (1902-1903), before promotion to Chief Plague Officer for the Punjab (1903-1912). At the outset of the First World War he was recalled to military service and accompanied the Indian Expeditionary Force to Europe, where he served on the Western Front. On his return to Britain Sidney Browning Smith was initially placed in charge of the Mont Doré Hospital for Indian troops at Bournemouth, but subsequently posted to Egypt. He was again mentioned in dispatches in the *London Gazette* (1917) and was awarded the C.M.G. In retirement he married the formidable Lady Edith Rattigan, widowed grandmother of the playwright Terence Rattigan.