## Contents

List of Maps and Figures ix List of Tables x Acknowledgments xi Preface: Querying the Kabul Hypothesis xv

Part I. Colonial Market Knowledge and Commercial Experimentation

Introduction: The Historical Location and Conceptual Framing of Afghanistan 3

1. Financing the Kabul Produce 35

2. Contracting Nomadic Carriage for an Aquatic Agenda 51

3. Fiscal Instability and State Revenue Reformulation during the First British Occupation 77

Part II. The New Outdated Colonial Political Economy

4. Capital Concentrations and Coordinations: Peshawar Subsidies and Kabul Workshops 97

5. New State Texts and Old Commercial Flows 121

6. Mutual Evasion between Afghanistan and the Global Marketplace 153

Conclusion: Deflecting Colonial Canons and Cannons— Alternate Routes to Knowing Afghanistan 165

## Contents

Appendix : Commercial Vocabulary in Nineteenth-Century Afghanistan 177 Note on Sources: Abbreviations, Transliterations and Spellings 183 Notes 185 Sources and Notes for Maps and Figures 239

Bibliography 243

Index 257