

Contents

FOREWORD TO THE YALE EDITION (by Jeremy Black)	1
PREFACE	9
SPELLING OF NAMES AND PLACES	11
NOTE ON DATES	13
<i>I Parents and childhood</i>	15
<i>II The electoral cap</i>	31
The father's plans for his son	33
The family's advancement and George's marriage	37
The primogeniture struggle	42
George's divorce	48
<i>III Experience gained</i>	65
The Königsmarck myth	65
George at the helm	69
The prospect of England	70
Struggle over the English succession between George and his mother	76
Wider German horizons	78
Losses of friends and companions	90
<i>IV The royal crown</i>	93
Hanover and Celle united	93
George's household after 1698	98
The War of the Spanish Succession	100
Death of queen Anne: the 'Act of Settlement' put into effect	104

<i>V Settling down</i>	111
Great Britain at the time of George's accession	111
George and the party system	119
The king's English	128
The royal household	132
<i>VI Two issues of principle</i>	147
The struggle for place and profit	147
Promotion by title	156
The Hanoverian succession	157
<i>VII Three crises</i>	170
George I's image	170
The Jacobite 'Fifteen'	174
European issues 1716-17	180
The ministerial crisis	193
Quarrel in the royal family	201
<i>VIII The watershed 1718-21</i>	211
Lessons learnt	211
European peace plans	216
Success in the south	230
Partial success in the north	235
Shifts of emphasis	242
<i>IX Peace, its problems and achievements</i>	247
The South Sea bubble	247
George, a captive of his ministers?	256
George as a patron of the arts	260
Unfinished business	267
Alliances and counter-alliances	274
War or peace?	277
<i>X Death of George I</i>	280
George's last journey	280
The balance sheet	285

Contents

BIBLIOGRAPHY	300
NOTES TO THE TEXT	322
GENEALOGICAL TABLES	372
MAP 1: George's Hanoverian dominions and the near neighbours of his electorate	378
MAP 2: Northern Europe	380
MAP 3: Southern Europe	382
INDEX	386

