

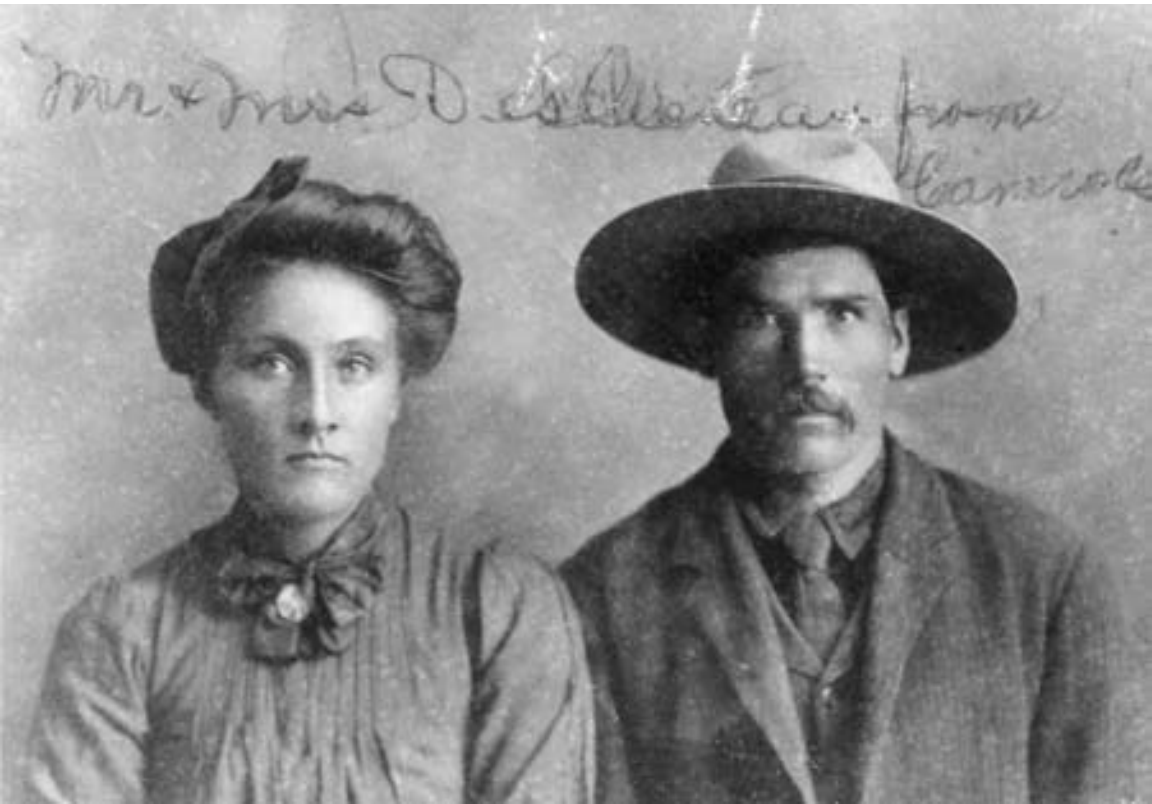
The Importance of Being Monogamous

MARRIAGE AND NATION BUILDING IN WESTERN CANADA TO 1915

SARAH CARTER

*The Importance
of Being Monogamous*

MARRIAGE AND NATION BUILDING
IN WESTERN CANADA TO 1915



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Titlepage photo: Métis married couple Sarah (née Petit
Couteau) and Joseph Descheneau, Camrose, Alberta,
c. 1905. (GAA NA-3474-8)

*For my mother:
Mary Y. Carter*

Now the first argument that comes ready to my hand is that the real homestead of the concept “good” is sought and located in the wrong place: the judgment “good” did not originate among those to whom goodness was shown. Much rather has it been the good themselves, that is the aristocratic, the powerful, the high-stationed, the high-minded, who have felt that they themselves were good, and that their actions were good, that is to say of the first order, in contradistinction to all the low, the low-minded, the vulgar and the plebian. It was out of this pathos of distance that they first arrogated the right to create values for their own profit, and to coin the names of such values: what had they to do with utility?

—FRIEDRICH NIETZSCHE

“Good and Evil, Good and Bad,” *The Genealogy of Morals*

