

Acknowledgements

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Earlier versions of some of this material has appeared in two articles: “Creating ‘Semi-Widows’ and ‘Supernumerary Wives’: Prohibiting Polygamy in Prairie Canada’s Aboriginal Communities to 1900,” in *Contact Zones: Aboriginal and Settler Women in Canada’s Colonial Past*,” ed., Katie Pickles and Myra Rutherdale (Vancouver: University of British Columbia Press, 2005), 131–59; and “‘Complicated and Clouded’: The Federal Administration of First Nations Marriage and Divorce Among the First Nations of Western Canada, 1887–1906,” in *Unsettled Pasts: Reconceiving the West Through Women’s History*, ed. Sarah Carter, Lesley Erickson, Patricia Roome and Char Smith (Calgary: University of Calgary Press, 2005): 151–78. I am grateful for permission to reprint this material.

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my mother, Mary Y. Carter, who had a long career as a lawyer, magistrate and judge in Saskatoon and was herself a “pioneer” in family law in Western Canada.

List of Abbreviations

APS	Aborigines Protection Society
CMS	Church Missionary Society (of the Anglican Church)
DIA	Department of Indian Affairs
HBC	Hudson's Bay Company
NWC	North West Company
NWMP	North West Mounted Police
MSRCC	Moral and Social Reform Council of Canada