Contents

Acknowledgments ix Introduction xi

PART ONE Personal Epistles

2	1 Private and public sources 3 Transportation and communication 6
	3 New ways in the new world 9
	4 Reflection and remorse 14
	5 Authoritative woman 17
	6 Novel letters 27
	7 From the other side 34
	8 Sanity and silences 47
	9 Connections and comparisons 52
	10 'A difference of view' 60

PART TWO Professional Pioneers

•	1 Facts from the frontier 65 2 Professional writer 68	0.2
3	Personal chronicles and present problems	84
	4 Confounding conventions 91	
	5 First fictions 97	
	6 Australian native 103	
	7 Forerunner and forgotten 112	
	8 Ideal and reality 116	
	9 Links in the chain 130	
	10 Woman to woman 138	

PART THREE Popular Prose

1 Setting the scene 143
2 Ada Cambridge 1844-1926 151
3 'Tasma' (Jessie Couvreur) 1848-97 155
4 Rosa Praed 1851-1935 162
5 Catherine Helen Spence and Catherine Martin 176
6 The supporting cast 185
7 Black and white issues 195
9 The major role of the minor writers 200
9 Literary partnerships 218
10 Women and children 220

PART FOUR Present Position

1 Nettie's network 237 2 Women's responsibility 285 3 Postscript 293

> Notes 303 References 311 Index 319