The Nature of Entrustment

Intimacy, Exchange, and the Sacred in Africa

Parker Shipton

ß

Yale University Press NEW HAVEN & LONDON

A .

Contents

Preface ix

- Acknowledgments xv
- CHAPTER I Introduction I
- CHAPTER 2 Fiduciary Culture: A Thread in Anthropological Theory 17
- CHAPTER 3 Luo and Their Livelihood: The Great Lake Basin and Beyond 40
- CHAPTER 4 Entrustment Incarnate: Humans and Animals over Years and Generations 81
- CHAPTER 5 Teaming Up: Borrowing, Lending, and Getting By 99
- CHAPTER 6 Marriage on the Installment Plan: The Present and the Promised 120
- CHAPTER 7 Debts in Life and Death: Shared Responsibility and the Funerary Flow 158
- CHAPTER 8 In the Passing: Inheritance of Things and Persons 173
- CHAPTER 9 Blood, Fire, and Word: Luo, Christian, and Luo-Christian Sacrifice 187
- CHAPTER 10 Conclusion: Entrustment and Obligation 205

Notes 223 Glossary 249 Bibliography 253 Index 271 Illustrations follow p. 80