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Collana	States, people, and the history of social change
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Nota di contenuto	Cover -- In Their Own Write -- Title -- Copyright -- Contents -- Tables and Figures -- Preface -- Acknowledgements -- Conventions -- 1 Thinking about the New Poor Law -- PART ONE Finding and Hearing "Voices" -- 2 Navigating and Measuring -- 3 Advocating for the Poor -- 4 Responding to Paupers and Advocates: The Central Authority -- PART TWO Pauper Agency -- 5 Rhetoric and Strategy: A Corpus View -- 6 Knowing the Poor "Law" -- 7 The Female Voice -- 8 Becoming Old -- 9 The Able-Bodied Poor -- PART THREE Contestation -- 10 Punishing the Pauper Complainant -- 11 Limits to Agency? The Sick Poor -- 12 Experiencing the Poor Law -- Appendix: Sampling -- Notes -- Bibliography -- Index.
Sommario/riassunto	Until now it has been impossible to know how the poor themselves negotiated the New Poor Law and its measures, and how their interactions with the state shifted and changed across the nineteenth century. Based on first-hand testimony - pauper letters and witness statements interwoven with letters to newspapers and correspondence from poor law officials and advocates - In Their Own Write exposes this hidden history.