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 3. The linguistic perspective4. The letters as loot-corpus; 5. Writing experience in the last decades of the eighteenth century; 6. H-dropping in letters to and from Zeeland; 7. N-deletion in letters from three female scribes; 8. Variation in the use of epistolary formulae; 9. Conclusions; References; The problem of reading dialect in semiliterate letters; 1. Introduction; 2. Early nineteenth-century Lancashire; 2.1 Industrialisation; 2.2 Evangelicalism; 2.3 Literacy and the early-nineteenth-century working classes; 3. The corpus; 4. Evidence for linguistic variation and change
 4.1 Phonological

Sommario/riassunto

In recent years there has been a renewed interest in correspondence both as a literary genre and as cultural practice, and several studies have appeared, mainly spanning the centuries between Early and Late Modern times. However, it is between the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries that the roots of contemporary usage begin to evolve, thanks to the circulation of new educational materials and more widespread schooling practices. In this volume, chapters representing diverse but complementary methodological approaches discuss linguistic and discursive practices of correspondence in Late
