

CONTENTS

<i>List of Illustrations</i>	x
<i>Abbreviations</i>	xii
Introduction: The Oral and the Literate	1
1. Popular Speech	51
2. Proverbial Wisdom	112
3. Old Wives' Tales and Nursery Lore	173
4. The Historical Imagination	213
5. Local Custom, Memory, and Record	259
6. Ballads and Libels	299
7. Rumour and News	335
Conclusion	406
<i>Bibliography</i>	414
<i>Index</i>	459