# Contents

Acknowledgments vii

Illustrations ix

Introduction 1
   The Other Voice 1
   A Diplomatic Life 2
   Women and the Epistolary Arts 7
   The Marquise de Villars, Letter Writer and Travel Writer 9
   The Self-Fashioning of an Ambassadress 12
   The Extant Letters of the Marquise de Villars 18
   A Note on the Translation 19

Letters from Spain (1679–1681) 21

Appendix: Three Additional Letters by the Marquise de Villars 77
   Letter A: To the Marquise de Sévigné, Paris, August 25, 1673 77
   Letter B: To Simon Arnauld, Marquis de Pomponne, Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, Turin, November 1, 1676 80
   Letter C: To Simon Arnauld, Marquis de Pomponne, Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, Turin, September 11, 1677 81

Bibliography 85

Index 91