

ing fit Matilda's paper any well I shall want to one of the same size being a proper one, unless you mention otherwise -

must make the best of our way immediately to Portsmouth to embark -
best. Starting embarks there - and acts wisely by doing so - as at this
season of the year, the westerly winds which prevail, might probably
keep the ship a week or a fortnight on the passage from Deptford - or on
the other hand, an easterly wind might carry her round in 2 days - I
have still a very great deal to do in getting out, from the uncertainty
which has existed about the state in which my perquisitions would be
undertaken - Should the day I have mentioned be agreed upon by all
hands, I will be with you by a Wednesday night's coach, and will
hope to be with you at Southampton on Thursday evening - Be assured
my dear girl that you cannot feel this approaching separation more
than your attached brother - but we must make up our minds
to it as well as we can - and indulge in the hope of an early and
happy meeting again - I have received the books by J. Burnett,
and packing cases by poetry - the latter will be more than I think
I shall want - but they will be useful - and I will settle all
expenses for them when we meet - I hope the man has done the
cover to Matilda's desk - You had better send me every thing you
possibly can now, rather than have things for embarkation at
Portsmouth - though nothing must be sent which will not arrive
at my lodgings before the middle of Wednesday - I am in hope you
have been able to send my large China Chest - as it will be bulky -
cannot now write more - but be sure you write by tomorrow
night's post, that I may know on Monday morning all that is settled
God bless you all - Give warmest love to our dear Parents, Mr. F.
and believe in the sincere affection of your affec. brother
I have omitted to ask how many S. Cloths, sheets (what size) J. F. Dale,
& Towels you think I have got -
I shall fully hope for dear Matilda's Company with us till the Pamela's quits Portm?