

I was amazingly glad to find
Soutay was to go with us, for he
is an uncommonly clever zealous
man - he staid for a few hours
at Chatham - called on Mrs Fox
whose poor soul was amazingly
low - and upon Mitchell to
make arrangements to about my
letters, we set off for Settrington
(my Uncle Col. E. & Mr. P. & myself)
dined there, ^{wrote to three} & set off a little after
~~four~~ ^{four} for Sheerness we crossed
the Kings ferry, which in my
opinion is as ill managed as
almost anything I ever saw

The boat upon a miserably
bad construction, yet compara-
tively dear, for we had to pay
6 shillings for our post coach &
a shilling for each pair of
horses, that tho' was owing to its
being after eight O'Clock, the
poor men who attend this ferry
do really earn their bread most
dearly, for from the state of
the beach, they are obliged to
be constantly up to their knees
in the water, I was amazingly
surprised at finding them very
fine young men, how they