

peace in the best manner we may, to save the Kingdom from ruin. By noon I had done this to my good content; and then with my wife all alone to dinner, and so to my chamber all the afternoon to write my letter fair; and sent it away, and then to talk with my wife and read, and so by daylight (the only time I think I have done it this year) to supper; and then to my chamber to read, and so to bed – my mind very much eased after what I have done today.

29. To Westminster hall, where the Hall full of people to see the issue of the day, the King being to come to speak to the House today. One thing extraordinary was this day, a man, a Quaker, came naked through the Hall, only very civilly tied about the privities to avoid scandal, and with a chafing-dish of fire and brimstone burning upon his head did pass through the Hall, crying, “Repent! Repent!” I up to the Painted Chamber, thinking to have got in to have heard the King’s speech, but upon second thoughts did not think it would be worth the crowd, and so went down again into the Hall and there walked with several; among others, my Lord Rutherford, who is come out of Scotland, and I hope I may get some advantage by it in reference to the business of the interest of the great sum of money I paid him long since without interest – but I did not now move him in it; but presently comes down the House of Commons, the King having made them a very short and no pleasing speech to them at all, not at all giving them thanks for their readiness to come up to town at this busy time; but told them that he did think he should have had occasion for them, but had none and therefore did dismiss them to look after their own occasions till October; and that he did wonder any should offer to bring in a suspicion that he intended to rule by an army or otherwise then by the laws of the land, which he promised them he would not; and so bade them go home and settle the minds of the country in that particular; and only added that he hath had made a peace, which he did believe they would find reasonable and a good peace, but did give them none of the particulars thereof. Thus, they are dismissed again, to their general great distaste, I believe the greatest that ever Parliament was, to see themselves so fooled and the nation in certain condition of ruin, while the King, they see, is only governed by his lust and women and rogues about him. They do all give up the kingdom for lost that I speak of, and do hear what the King says, how he and the Duke of York do do what they can to get up an army, that they may need no more Parliaments. And how my Lady