

Then rises Garraway and seconds him; only, with this explanation (which he said he believed the other meant): that as soon as peace should be concluded, they might be disbanded. Then rose Sir W. Coventry and told them that he did approve of what the last gentleman said; but also that at the same time he did no more then what, he durst be bold to say, he knew to be the King's mind, that as soon as peace was concluded, he would do of himself. Then rose Sir Tho. Littleton and did give several reasons, from the uncertainty of their meeting again but to adjourne (in case news comes of the peace being ended before Monday next), and the possibility of the King's having some about him that may endeavour to alter his own, and the good part of his Council's, advice for the keeping up of the land army; and therefore it was fit that they did present it to the King as their desire, that as soon as peace was concluded, the land army might be laid down, and that this their request might be carried to the King by them of their House that were privy councillors; which was put to the vote, and carried *nemine contradicente*. So after this vote passed, they adjourned; but it is plain what the effects of this Parliament will be if they be suffered to sit, that they will fall foul upon the faults of the government; and I pray God they may be permitted to do it, for nothing else I fear will save the King and Kingdom then the doing it betimes. They gone, I to walk with my wife in the garden, and then home to supper and to bed.

27. Up and to the office, where I hear that Sir John Coventry is come over from Bredagh<sup>1</sup> (a nephew I think of Sir W. Coventry's); but what message he brings I know not. This morning, news is come that Sir Jos. Jordan is come from Harwich with 16 fireships and 4 other little ships-of-war; and did attempt to do some execution upon the enemy, but did it without discretion as most do say, so as that they have been able to do no good, but have lost 4 of their fireships. They attempted, it seems, when the wind was too strong, that our grapplings would not hold; others say we came to leeward of them, but all condemn it as a foolish management. They are come to Sir Edwd. Spragg about Lee, and the Duch are below at the Noure. At the office all the morning; and at noon to the Change, where I met Fenn and he tells me that Sir Jo. Coventry doth bring the confirmation of the peace; but I do not find the

1. Where the peace treaty was being negotiated.