

Now before the two Houses named Persons to be *Lords Lieutenants* of the County Militia, they first made an Ordinance to regulate the Militia in *London*, and then they petitioned the King to settle the Militia in the several Counties, giving him a List of the Names of the Persons who they desired might be *Lords Lieutenants*, and at the same time presented to him a Form of their Ordinance for regulating the Militia of *London*, by which they desired him to settle the Militia of the Kingdom.

But the King refusing what they desired, there were fresh Reports of dangerous Plots, designed by the Papists to set several Cities and Towns on Fire; and thereupon another Petition was sent from the Parliament to the King, who was then at *Dover*, (to accompany the Queen and his Daughter, who were going to *Holland*) to which Petition they desired such a speedy Answer, which might raise a confidence in them that they should not be exposed to those who endeavoured to kindle a Combustion here as they had already done in *Ireland*, and which nothing could hinder but his granting their Petition.

The King replied, That as for the City of *London*, and such other Corporations who had Power by Charters to order the Militia, he would not alter it, and that he would not consent to any indefinite Time proposed by them to put the Kingdom in a Posture of Defence.

The two Houses voted this Answer to be a Denial of their Petition, which would hazard the Peace of the whole Kingdom, unless some speedy Remedy were applied by the Parliament; and that those Persons who advised the King to make this Answer were Enemies to the State: And immediately after this Vote, they sent another Petition to the King, (then at *Newmarket*) protesting that if he did not speedily assent to what they had desired, they should be