

Stephen Robertson

Locking down too

down, not up—as in
facing down the crisis
pinning down the problem
throwing down the gauntlet
battening down the hatches
closing down the argument
shutting down the computer
tearing down the barriers
cutting down the roses
floating down the river
whistling down the wind

not as in
screwing up your courage
putting up resistance
throwing up earthworks
zipping up your jacket
tying up your shoelaces
topping up the tank
tearing up the contract
pulling up the weeds
picking up the pieces
wrapping up the meeting
shutting up shop