

Celebrations



Wellington Arch, London

Stanton St. Bernard

Napoleonic Wars - Peace of 1814

No village could exceed that of Staunton Bernard, which is situate between Devizes and Pewsey, in their late rejoicings at the return of peace. The poor were assembled on Saturday the 16th inst. on Milk Hill, and regaled with a very fine fat sheep, and an abundance of roast beef and good strong beer, provided by subscription; in the evening there was a variety of rustic diversions, and at ten o'clock a large bonfire was kindled and many excellent skyrockets discharged, which were answered (it being previously arranged) by signal, from a fire and a discharge of rockets in Chilhampton fields, by some gentlemen of Wilton; and though the distance could be but little short of 25 miles, a good sight was obtained both of the fires and of the ascension of the rockets. This novel appearance afforded great pleasure to the spectators.

Salisbury and Winchester Journal – Monday, 25 July 1814