



A BRITTANY MENHIR CONVERTED INTO A CALVARY.

at Kergavat, in Brittany, illustrating the tremendous weight represented in the upper stone. The dolmens of Marie Remor, of the Madelaine and of Crucuno are also striking examples, while the series of three at Keriaval represent a succession of altars or tombs. In certain of these cairns, the walls are marked by hieroglyphics and thus far have baffled the efforts of scholars to decipher. A "kistvaen" is a type of dolmen enclosed at one or both ends.

The menhir is a single upright monolith, often standing in an isolated corner. They are of varying height, the loftiest in all Brittany being the one at Plouarzel, forty-two feet high. The one at Locmariaquer was the highest, before it fell and broke, as shown in the illustration, having been shattered by a stroke of lightning. It is estimated that this monster weighs 342 tons! How these masses of stone were brought

from a distance, or how they were raised to their upright position, is as great a mystery as the purpose they were intended to serve.

The alignment is a series of parallel rows of inverted upright stones, probably erected in honour of a dead chief, each household contributing a stone, just as the Bedouin of to-day, when he visits the shrine of a Moslem saint, erects a block of stone as an act of worship.

The alignments of Carnac, in Lower Brittany, are unequalled in size and number in the world. For one such stone to be found in the British Isles or elsewhere in Europe, there are hundreds of these mega-



THE GIANT MENHIR OF MENEC AT CARNAC IN LOWER BRITTANY.