



THE GREAT MENHIR AT LOCMARIAQUER IN BRITTANY. BEFORE IT WAS SHATTERED BY LIGHTNING IT WAS 64 FEET HIGH.

lithic monuments in Brittany. They stand in the centre of a dreary archipelago known as the Morbihan, the wildest and oldest part of France, and at one time the chief centre of the Celtic population. Great and many as they are to-day—over four thousand in the one district—these stones are but the remnants of what originally stood there, hundreds having been mutilated or destroyed during all the disastrous wars that have swept over France since the early centuries.

The journey to Carnac takes one by railway from the old town of Auray to a little hamlet called Plouharnel, where two modes of conveyance await the tourist: a little narrow-gauge tram-line, or an old diligence of the last century, with a horse of the vintage of 1775. The poor beast proved to be as slow as its driver, and the vehicle as disjointed and noisy as its age indicated. On either side of the white roadway every field of grain had its Celtic stone, but we drove past them to the village of Carnac, where the pilgrimage church of St. Cornelius blocks up the main street. A statue of the Saint stands above the main door-

way, with carved figures of cattle to his right and left. Here once a year, on the thirteenth of September, a curious *fête Dieu* is held, in which cattle, garlanded with flowers, are driven to the shrine of the Saint, where they are duly blessed. Afterward, offerings of live cattle are made to the Saint. In the same vicinity is a typical wayside well and shrine, where the same Saint is worshipped by the peasants.

Continuing our journey we ascended a hill, known locally as *Mont St. Michel*, from the summit of which a panoramic view was had of a wide area of country. Almost at one's feet stretched the famous Carnac prehistoric monuments, forming long avenues or rows a mile and a quarter in length, and comprising inverted stones ranging from one monster, eighteen feet in height, called the giant Menhir of Menec, to boulders scarce three feet high. Over two thousand of the four thousand that exist in the commune are visible from this altitude—the alignments of Menec with 874 upright pieces of granite; Kermario with 855, and Kerlescan with 262. The three groups of stone streets end in stone circles or cromlechs. To the south