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Notes.

CAPT. RICHARD TYRRELL, 1553-1625.
(See *ante*, pp. 246, 317.)

THE hero of the mythical battle of Tyrrell's Pass, so graphically described by the imaginative MacGeoghegan in his 'Histoire de l'Irlande,' was nevertheless a notable man. He is rightly called by the Four Masters the son of Thomas Oge Tyrrell, *i.e.*, Thomas junior, but wrongly in another place the son of Thomas the son of Richard; for he was the eldest son and heir of Thomas Tyrrell of Bollebrack, co. Westmeath, who died 28 March, 1567, a younger son of Sir Thomas Tyrrell, Captain of Fertullagh. He was therefore brother's son, not brother, to Sir John Tyrrell of the Pass ('Calendar, State Papers, Ireland, 1596-7,' p. 181). He was fourteen years old or thereabouts at the time of his father's death, probably some years older, as he is said to have been foster-brother to Cahill, Caloach, or Charles O'Connor (Faly), commonly called "Don Carolo" after his flight to Spain. He

appears to have served under Lord Delvin in the expedition to Ulster in 1579, as he himself states that he killed MacMahon's brother, and on other occasions did many good services against those of the north, which were recognized by successive Lords Deputy. But as he was imprisoned divers times without a cause, as he alleges, he revolted to the Earl of Tyrone in 1596, and became one of his principal commanders. He displayed great military skill, and behaved as a gallant soldier, being several times wounded, and was regarded, after Tyrone himself, as the most formidable opponent of the forces of the Crown. Hence constant attempts were made to win him back to his allegiance.

In November, 1600, he married the sister of Owny MacRoy O'More, but references to his children imply that he had been previously married. He suffered a final defeat when his camp in Muskerry was surprised and taken by Sir Samuel Bagenal, 22 Oct., 1602, and he and his wife had only time to escape "in their shirts." The richness of the clothes they left behind excited wonder, being so different from the spoil usually found in an Irish camp.

The submission of Tyrone in March, 1602/3, brought the rebellion to an end, and Tyrrell immediately afterwards submitted to the Lord Deputy, binding himself by solemn oaths to continue faithful to the King against all the world, on condition of being employed in the King's service. He was accordingly granted a general pardon by patent dated 5 Nov., 1603, being described as of Bollebreck in the co. Westmeath, with Dorotie More his wife and a large number of his followers of the counties of Westmeath, Longford, and Cavan. At the same time he was appointed captain of a company, which was, however, disbanded 30 May, 1606, when he received a pension of 200*l.* a year.

Richard and his brother William had made large purchases of land in the co. Cavan, which on the plantation of that county they abandoned, receiving a grant from the Crown, by patent dated 25 May, 1612, of 2,000 acres to hold for ever as of the Castle of Dublin in common socage, at a rent of 1*l.* per annum. At the election held 6 April, 1613, Walter Talbot and Tyrrell were candidates for the co. Cavan in the Catholic interest; but although they claimed the majority of votes, the Government nominees were returned by the Sheriff. In 1620 Tyrrell surrendered his pension, but what the consideration was does not appear.