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| The Irish War of Independence and Civil War |
| *Cogadh na Saoirse*; Anglo-Irish War |
| The Irish War of Independence (Irish: *Cogadh na Saoirse*), also known as the Anglo-Irish War, began in January, 1919, as a guerrilla war waged by the Irish Republican Army (IRA) against the British Government. Ireland was formally a part of the United Kingdom as a result of the Acts of Union in 1800. In the late-nineteenth century, the Irish Parliamentary Party, led by Charles Stewart Parnell, advocated Home Rule for Ireland through cooperation with the Liberal party in the English Parliament, but were unsuccessful until the Third Home Rule Bill of 1912. This bill provoked Unionists in the north of Ireland to form the Ulster Volunteers, who feared a predominantly Catholic Irish Parliament in Dublin. In response, nationalists formed the Irish Volunteers. The Third Home Rule Bill never took effect because of the outbreak of World War I; Irish troops fought with England in the War, with the promise that Home Rule would be granted at the war’s end. |
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| Further reading:  (Breen)  (Coogan)  (Coogan, Éamon de Valera: The Man Who Was Ireland)  (Coogan, Michael Collins: The Man Who Made Ireland)  (Coogan and Morrison, The Irish Civil War)  (Forster)  (Hopkinson)  (Lee)  (Lee, Ireland, 1912-1985: Politics and Society)  (Leeson)  (Macardle)  (Macardle, The Irish Republic: A Documented Chronicle of the Anglo-Irish Conflict and the Partition of Ireland, with a Detailed Account of the Period 1916-1923) |