



## Rizal on Sectionalism

Now let us take the case of Don Diego Silang. While I am happy to have a fellow countryman as educated, as intelligent, and as active as Don Isabelo de los Reyes, nevertheless I feel sorry for his excessive Ilocano feeling which, as you suspect, might one day break us down as an argument against us. While he has some works of great force, he has other works, on the contrary, that seem to be written by Spaniards, so superficial, trivial, and of little discernment, one of these being that about the *catapusan*.

In this case of Silang, the only historian I have been able to consult here is Mas, besides Zuñiga, for neither Concepcion nor Aduarte has anything about it and the others merely copied one from another . . . I am with you and can very well maintain that the uprising of Silang had a fanatical character, although Silang himself was not a fanatic, because he seems to be a great politician but a rogue without honor nor civic virtues, because of which he failed.—*From the Letter of Jose Rizal to Del Pilar, London, February 4, 1889.*