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YOUNG VS. RANKIN
Augusta Co., 1793

The separate answer of Thomas Patterson, one of the defendants to a bill in the Ch. C. exhibited against him by John Young
This respondent serving and answering to himself now and at all times hereafter all and every manner of benefit of exception to the manifest untruth unsustained and imperfections in the said complete bill mentioned for answer thereto or as much thereof as this draft is material or necessary for him to answer unto answerth and either that it is this respondent together with Samuel Henderson alive Exec. of the last will and Testament of George Rankin deceased and that they took upon themselves the authority of the administration, that the said Samuel Henderson did almost the whole of the business which precludes the respondents from accounting distinctly for the several acts of administration at this instant period of time, but while recollects that whom his co-executor of himself witnessed. They had nearly discharged their duty with respect to the distribution of the Estate and assuming from this knowledge of the harmony and affection which seemed to prevail among the legatees who were interested in the Estate therein, answering they were justifiable and secure, gave up all the papers belonging to the Estate and administration to the elder brother of the family, who this respondent has since been informed causally lost the same . which he offers as a reason why an account of the administration at this day cannot be brought forward, but this respondent conceives that on no other occasion would such an answer be regarded as all the legatees (perhaps the wife of 'the comp. excepted) were privy to the transaction of this respondent and his co-executors deceased and are well pleased with this administration, neither does he conceive it will be necessary on this occasion to be produced as this respondent insists and expects he can prove by indifferent testimony the amount of each share of the moveable estate which did not exceed thirteen or fourteen pounds and that an amount hereto annexed - No 1 - which shows that the Brother, John Rankin of the comp. wife has fully complied with the expectation of this respondent and his co-executor dec. and this respondent is

informed that many things were furnished ^{her} ~~his~~ Brother John besides these mentioned, an amount which have never been charged and never were intended to be so, and this respondent is advised that the said comp. hath no rights to receive any part of the legacy of any dec. owing his wife dec. in the year 1788 leaving one child and no act to redeem his part of the personal Estate into possessions by the said compt. and the respondent is well afraid if the said Mary existed, no such suit would have ever been commenced but if any is due (which this respondent by the by, denies) he has no doubt from the repeated declarations of the executors of John Rankin deceased but that they want to pay it to the last shilling if the child of their sister was to the benefits of it but the said comp't is married again, brought suit in his own name and from other accountings they are apprehensive no benefits will result to their infant nephew and the case draft denies all manner of combination and consideration without that etc. etc.