

Book X.
Title XIII.

Concerning those who inform against themselves.
(De his qui se deferunt.)

10.13.1. Emperor Constantine to the Comptrollers (rationales) of Spain.

A person to whom an inheritance has been entrusted as a secret trust, shall at once announce it to the office of Your Gravity, let the matter be known and immediately report what has been done, and after thus showing such fidelity, receive the third part of the property of the deceased. 1. But if the wife of the deceased, who reports this to the office of Your Devotion, she, too,¹ even though the deceased wanted her to be his heir, shall, if she has revealed the transaction; be rewarded to the extent that she shall receive the half of the whole estate, and divide it with the fisc, with the privilege on her part to make the first choice of her portion; and the person concealing the transaction, the enemy of the fisc as well as of the woman, shall be deprived of all of his property which shall be claimed by the fisc, and shall be deported to an island.

Given March 15 (317).

C. Th. 10.11.1.

¹ [Blume] ipsa etiam. Originally a husband could leave only a limited amount of property to his wife. But this limitation was swept away by Justinian. C. 8.58.2 and note. When this law was, accordingly, enacted, the wife here referred to was doubtless one for whose benefit a secret trust had been left. But since the limitation above mentioned was not in existence in Justinian's time, the meaning was, it would seem changed, so that reference would seem to be made to any wife who disclosed any secret trust left to anyone by her husband. As to secret trusts generally, see note C. 10.11.1.