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**THE PAPERS OF  
WILLIE PERSON MANGUM**

**Edited by  
Henry Thomas Shanks**

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They are engaged in gathering corn sowing wheat &C. . So that I was oblige to hire hands to do the work & had to go to a different neighbourhood to get them. Being compeled to get out of the miserable hutt I am in, & that before Christmas. If you can possibly raise among our friends 20. or 30 dollars for me by Christmas I can make out for the present I shall be at your house on my way from school, at Christmas to get you to draw the writings between me & Mr Rogers<sup>22</sup> respecting the Land—

I should suppose that you might get something from Gen. B. Daniel of Raleigh—Governor Burton, the latter being a fellow student & a particular friend—I think you may get something from Jack Wilson of Hillsborough either at present or the future. It would be well, I think, to act in all cases for the present or the future as the case may be—I shall endeavor to send you a description of the Land before I come, as you may have the writing ready & if you should be from home about Christmas, please to leave the writings or any thing you may have for me enclosed in a letter at your fathers and oblige yours &c

JOHN CHAVIS

[Addressed:]

Hon. Willie P. Mangum Esqr  
Orange—

Capt. A. Rogers,

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WPM-LC

*John Chavis to Willie P. Mangum*

Decr. 15<sup>th</sup>. 1827

My dear Sir/

I wrote you that I should call to see you on my way home from school at Christmas, but finding that wd. be quite inconvenient, I called to day to get you to draw the deed of Trust of the Land given me by Benjamin Rogers of Wake The Land lies in Wake & the Trustees is Allen Rogers, & the Land is to be given to me during life & my wife Frances during her life or widowhood. I forgot to get a general description of the Land from Mr. Rogers, but know the Land as well as he does & by whose lands it is bounded but not the Lines of the Land, as you said a general

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<sup>22</sup>Allen Rogers. See above, p. 270n.

description was sufficient & Mr. Rogers agreed it was. I suppose the memorandum I have left will be sufficient. As it will be very inconvenient for me to call again, I would thank you to draw the deed & enclose it in a letter & send it by some safe hand to put in the hands of Judge Cameron who can send it safely to me by his man James who passes by Mr. Greens to see his wife. Any other communications, either from Roberts, or any business with my friends will be thankfully rec<sup>d</sup>.—

My buildings are going on & I expect to move in the course of a few weeks & am yours &C

JOHN CHAVIS

[Addressed:]

Hon. Willie P. Mangum Esqr  
Orange

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WPM-LC

*John Chavis to Willie P. Mangum*

Dec<sup>r</sup>. 18<sup>th</sup>. 1827—

My dear Sir/

Your present & future prospects, to provide for your growing family, is a part of my daily meditations. I am much concerned therefore at the thought you have of moving to Hillsborough. I do conceive it will be the most fatal step to your prosperity that you have ever taken—

You know, that I have ever opposed every stage of your political life, preferring your continuance at the bar untill you had acquired a competent fortune. And you are now certainly convinced beyond the shaddow of a doubt, that had you followed my advice, you would been worth dollars, dollars, where you are not worth a *Mill*. And in the face of all your destructive steps—you are about to give the fatal blow, by moving to Hillsborough after being at the great expense of preparing to live, How can you possibly conceive, that you can better provide for your family, from a baron lot of ground, than you can from a well prepared & ample farm? Pray stop and draw the contrast between the prospects Examine and see which of the two is the most likely to afford you sustenance, your farm with all necessaries provided, stock of all kinds, farming utensils & wood in abundance or to