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**THE PAPERS OF
WILLIE PERSON MANGUM**

**Edited by
Henry Thomas Shanks**

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WPM-LC

*John Chavis²⁷ to Willie P. Mangum*RALEIGH N. C. Jan'y 28th. 1825

My dear Sir/

I am truly glad that I came to Raleigh today. Mr. Pullen²⁸ the sheriff showed me a letter from you respecting my bank business, stating that he had written to you and had informed you that it was at my request, which was not so. Shortly after you had set out to Congress, I was in Raleigh, and he asked me, what I intended to do about the business. I answered that you had told me that you & the Treasurer²⁹ had promised to pay the debt, he replied that he had understood that you had said, that the Treasurer should not lose by it & this was all that was passed upon the subject. I hope therefore that you will not think hard of me on ac^t. of his writing to you in the manner he did for it was not my act at all—

Shortly after I conversed with Mr. Pullen I saw, & conversed with the Treasurer upon the subject, & his conversation was that of a father to a beloved son which melted my heart with thankfulness & penitential sorrow—

I am placed in the most unhappy situation I am in want of every thing & without a school & what to do I know not. I hope however that God has in reserve some way of relief. It is commonly said that the darkest time is just before day—

I am anxious respecting the presidency. I am very fearful that Mr Crawford will not be elected. Tho' Mr Western Gales tells me that he saw a letter of yours to some person in this place saying that he was gaining ground. I do suppose that the exertions in the case will be indispensible and I hope that you will, for Mr. Crawford, fight old [illegible] battle, & if you are killed, I think you will die in a good cause—

There is much rumour abroad that you will not be elected again because you support the election of Mr Crawford. It is supposed that Mr Crudup will oppose you & if he does your election will be doubtful. If you offer & I am alive I will vote for you.³⁰ I

²⁷See above, p. 41n.

²⁸Turner Pullen was sheriff of Wake County in 1824-1825. *Statement of the Revenue of North Carolina for the year 1824-1825*, bound with *The N. C. Laws*, 1825.

²⁹John Haywood.

³⁰Until 1835 free Negroes could vote in North Carolina. Johnson, *Ante-Bellum, N. C.*, 601.

should be glad to know whether the Managers of the colonization society³¹ have made any propositions to congress—

I am your ob^t H^b-ser^t.

JOHN CHAVIS

P. S.

Please to give my best respects to Mrs. Seaton³² & tell her that I am truly glad to find that there is so much friendship between her & Gen Lafayette, and I intend when [he] comes to Raleigh to endeavour to take a peep at him if possible—

[Addressed:]

Hon. Willie P. Mangum Esqr
Washington City
District of
Columbia

Mail

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W. Ruffin³³ to Willie P. Mangum

RALEIGH 1 Feby 1825

Dear Sir.

I am indebted to you for your three several favors, for which you will please receive my acknowledgment and thanks—They should each have ben replied to in regular succession, if I could have communicated any thing, either interesting or amusing, but alas! There is such a dull monotony in our little circle that I could say nothing in which you could feel an interest—Besides, we are looking to you for *light & knowledge*— you appear to have a strange dense atmosphere about Washington; with almost a continual veering of the wind— at one time, there is a strong breeze from the West, at an other a violent hurricane from the East, the sky is obscured, the sun darkened, and the heavy clouds approach with threatening danger—what is the mariner to do in this perilous situation? Moor fast his vessel— let go the sheet anchor of reason—pay out the cable of consist-

³¹Chavis was opposed to the American Colonization Society or other agencies which worked for the emancipation of slaves.

³²Probably Sarah Weston Seaton, the wife of William W. Seaton and the daughter of Joseph Gales, Sr. Seaton and Joseph Gales, Jr., edited the *National Intelligencer*. D. A. B., XVI, 541.

³³William Ruffin, a Virginian who moved to Warrenton, N. C., and then to Raleigh, was the uncle of Judge Thomas Ruffin. Hamilton, *Papers of Ruffin*, I, 330n.