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**THE PAPERS OF
WILLIE PERSON MANGUM**

**Edited by
Henry Thomas Shanks**

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It is rumored here that Branch & White¹⁰³ are to fight—from their quarrels in the House I do not see how they can avoid something of the kind—Do write me & give me the *on dits* of the day—Dont the President mean to nominate another Minister to G. Br—or will he [illegible]—& not trust again to the Senate?

I have just heard of the death of our friend Gen^l. Williams¹⁰⁴ he died to day (Monday) about 2 O'Clock—no more—

Yr. friend & obt Srvt.

JNO BRAGG

Warrenton N C

6 March 1832

[Addressed:]

Hon: Willie P. Mangum
U States Senate
Washington

WPM-LC

John Chavis to Willie P. Mangum

March 10th. 1832

My dear Sir/

It is four weeks to day since I left your house, at which time, Mrs. Mangum & myself wrote to you respecting my Teaching School for you. It was agreed also, that as soon as Mrs Mangum rec^d your answer, she was to write to me. I promised her also, that I would not engage to Teach for any person or persons until I rec^d. a letter from her. Yesterday week was our mail day, when I expected her letter & no letter came, Yesterday I sent to the post Office & no letter came. Supposing that she had written, and her not receiving my Answer. I wrote to her to day that I had rec^d. no letter from her, fearing that she might think that I neglected her Interest & that of her children. I expected an answer from you also: but it has not come to hand—I have

¹⁰³In the preceding sessions of Congress, Joseph M. White of Florida, accused Branch while Secretary of the Navy of suppressing important documents on the quantity of live oaks growing on public lands in Florida and of unduly increasing the salaries of agents. This brought on much controversy but an investigation in July exonerated Branch. *N. C. Free Press*, Aug. 14, 1832.

¹⁰⁴General William Williams died Mar. 4, 1832. He was a member of the Council of State from Warren County. *N. C. Free Press*, Mar. 13, 1832.

thought it probable that you might disapprove of the Terms I mentioned. If you did, they were founded upon what you told me, that a school could be got in your neighbourhood of Twenty five scholars at ten dollars each, And I supposed that Thirty six dollars is [illegible] be quite a reduced price. At any rate, I expected that if you disapproved of my Terms, that you write to Mrs. Mangum to make me a proposition and it may be done, as no letters have come to hand—

So anxious am I, to Teach your children the Theory of the English language, that I am truly sorry that I had not told Mrs. Mangum to write to you, (or written so myself) that if nothing else could be done, that I w^d. come & Teach Sally alone, for the same you w^d. have to give for her board in Hillsborough, provided you w^d. board me & let me have a horse occasionally [to go] & see my family. This I w^d. do with the expectation of getting a school in the neighbourhood the next year & I w^d. do it yet, if I could be assured in a few days that it w^d. meet your approbation. I made this statement to her in to days letter—

I fear that my promise to Mrs. Mangum will prevent me from getting a school at all, for I put off attempts to this day; but I must set out on Monday to see what I can do. & if I sh^d. be disappointed, I have stated what I will do for you so that I shall expect an answer to this letter to be left at the post office of Rogers's store—

Mr. Holmes¹⁰⁵ in the senate, appears to use a knife, almost too sharp for sore shins, But Oh my son, what will you do with the overwhelming eloquence and masterly disquisitions of Mr. Clay? The Tariff is a tough question. but I still say, that you may modify it, but let it be extensive. I am already of the opinion that the senate did right in the case of Mr. Van Buren Pray put neck & shoulders to the renewal of the Charter of the United States bank, for if you fail to do that, you will at once sever the bones & sinews of the nation—What do you think now of the imprisonment of the Missionarys in the state prison of Georgia?

Please to give my respects to my son—Abraham Rencher & to Gen. Barringer—& tell them I w^d. be glad to receive a letter from them. Tell them if I am Black I am free born American & a revolutionary soldier & therefore ought not to be thrown in-tirely out of the scale of notice

¹⁰⁵John Holmes was the Senator from Maine from 1820 to 1827 and from 1829 to 1833. *Biog. Dir. of Cong.*, 1110.

I am your Ob^t. Hb. Sv^t.

JOHN CHAVIS

[Addressed:]

Hon. Willie P. Mangum Esqr
In Congress
Washington City.

WPM-LC

S. F. Patterson¹⁰⁶ to Willie P. Mangum

WILKESBORO' N. C. March 11th 1832

Dear Sir—

The speech of Colo Benton on the state of the currency which you were so good as to send me, I have received, and read with much pleasure, and I hope some profit—The view which Colo B has taken of the subject, certainly evidences great labour and extensive research, and shows that his investigations have been carried to the extent required, in order to enable him to arrive at fair and just conclusions—I had myself in the course of my little dealing with the world, often wondered why it was that from the time the United States Bank went into operation, up to within the last three or four years, we had so little United States paper in circulation in the Southern Country; and when paper of that description began gradually to become more plenty, it should almost all consist of the Branch Bank orders of which Colo B speaks—Never had I been able to solve the mystery until I read his speech—

Although I would be opposed to an extension of the present charter of the Bank of the United States, yet my limited observations have led me to believe that an institution founded on similar principles was almost absolutely necessary for carrying on the financial operations of the Government with ease, convenience and safety—and that a renewal of the charter with such modifications and restrictions as would avoid many of the difficulties and objections which have been urged against it,

¹⁰⁶Samuel Finley Patterson, 1799-1874, later was an anti-Jackson leader who was active in railroad developments and in banking. He was state treasurer from 1835 to 1837, president of the State Bank, president of the Raleigh and Gaston Railroad, and frequently a member of the legislature. Ashe, *Biog. Hist. of N. C.*, II, 328-334.