

North Carolina State Library  
Raleigh

N. G.  
Dog

**THE PAPERS OF  
WILLIE PERSON MANGUM**

**Edited by  
Henry Thomas Shanks**

**Volume One  
1807 - 1832**

**Raleigh  
State Department of Archives and History  
1950**

terially to the e'clat of the occasion. Your appearance too, would highly gratify a large number of your warm friends & admirers, among whom we are proud to number ourselves.

I hope that you will be able, notwithstanding your numerous & pressing public engagements, to give our application an early & favourable consideration,

Respectfully

Your obt. Servt—

MULLARD L. FELT,

Corresponding Sec'y

Hon. Willie P. Mangum

---

WPM-LC

*John Chavis to Willie P. Mangum*

Nov. 3<sup>d</sup> 1832—

My dear Sir/

It is with heart felt satisfaction that I have to inform you that I had the oppy & the pleasure of reading your friends answer to Albermarle. At first, for a few hours, I felt mortified, at his attack, but shortly, I felt glad, that he had done it, because it w<sup>d</sup>. afford you an opp<sup>y</sup> to answer for yourself, & answer much of the calumniation branded against you. Your being called a Nullifier was not unexpected to me. I knew that w<sup>d</sup>. be the case from your strong expressions in your speech of the Tariff Bill. And when you mentioned in your address at Hills<sup>bo</sup>.<sup>215</sup> I was not at all surprised and when you denied the charge & said that there was but one Nullifier in the state, I believed that you meant G. Iredell, & I believe that Albermarle to be the man—

I thought much upon the subject, whether it be best for you to answer, or to get some friend to do it for you who was adequate to the Task. I however concluded that the latter w<sup>d</sup>. be the proper course therefore I am pleased—

To hear you traduced is killing. I can blame and scold you myself but I dont like other people to do it. If I think you to be wrong in any case I dont want other people to think so, & there—

---

<sup>215</sup>On September 19, 1832, at a public meeting in Hillsboro, Mangum made a strong speech against nullification. He had been accused of being a nullifier. *N. C. Press*, Sept. 25, 1832.

fore I am so tormented at the thoughts of your being in favour of the reelection of G. Jackson, & what almost takes my life is, that I cannot believe that you view him as an honourable dignified and affectionate character & why you sh<sup>d</sup>. wish him to continue in the seat of the chief Magistrate I cannot conceive—I sincerely pity Mrs. Mangum, because I believed that she loves you as wife ought to love a husband, & therefore it must mortify her to the centre of her heart to think of your favouring the pretensions of such a character as she conceives G. J. to be. Please to give my respects to her, & tell her that the United states w<sup>d</sup>. be too poor to induce me to vote for the reelection of G. J. And if she has not got a Lockchain, to send borrow one and chain you to her door, & prevent you from going to the Polls on Thursday to give a vote so degrading & debasing to her & her children. Good heaven! Why is it that W. P. Mangum has become so infatuated? What has become of his discriminating powers of appreciating the respectability of characters? Let him take G. J. from his cradle up to his reappointing Guin to the Secretary office of the sale of the Indians Lands & see if he cannot discover a host of blots of the deepest dye in his character—undeserving a chief Magistrate? Has he lost sight of the honour & dignity of his Country? but I must lower my sails, for my feelings w<sup>d</sup>. willingly carry me from my own, to the European Countries, where I should meet with shame & confusion of face, were I in favour of the reelection of G. J.—

But to return. Your reasoning & Mr Calhouns appears to me, to be pretty much a par. and I cannot clearly understand you. You appear to make a distinction between the states & the people of the states, That the states took the liberty to unite to support by the U. States constitution the Union & Laws of the General Government but not the people of the states. That the states are sovereign states and accordingly have a right to act independently of any Laws of the Government, in which their domestic affairs are concerned. Then I suppose you mean that in that case the states & the people bound to obey any Law unitedly only in the case of War—

I recollect that at the time the Constitution was forming the great question was between the sovereignty of the states, & a consolidation of the states, that the ultimatum was the states should be sovereign so far as to make their own Laws & to govern themselves; but at the same time they were by the Constitution under the Guardianship of the G. Government—That

if their rights & privileges were infringed by any domestic or Foreign power the G. Government was bound to protect them, Also that the G. Government was to enact Laws for the general good & the people of the States were bound to obey these Laws, precisely in the same manner, as the people of each state are bound to obey the Laws of their respective states. Also in precisely, in same manner if the states are dissatisfied with any Laws of the state, they have a just right to complain, & to have the Law repealed & if the Legislature will repeal it, well & if not they must peaceably submit, & be Governed by the Law because it is a Law of their own chosing as it was done by representatives of their chosing. Just so by the Laws of the G. Government. The people of the several states are are [*sic*] bound to obey the Laws of the G. Government because they are enacted by representatives of their own chosing but if upon complaint of any Law, they cannot get it repealed why in that case they bound to submit & make the best of a bad bargain. This has ever been my understanding of the state and G. Governments But according to you and Mr Calhoun? I have ever been mistaken & I cannot see how or in what manner I am mistaken—

I shall expect a Long letter from you before you go to Congress—

One thing I must say to you in conclusion. That I am truly sorry that I am so ignorant & yet take so deep an Interest in the welfare of my Country, but nothing short of a Loss of my senses or death can possibly prevent me. so that if I am troublesome to you you must ascribe it a love of country. Please to present some of the cream of my love to Mrs. Mangum & her children, & believe me to be your undeviating & unshaken friend

JOHN CHAVIS

P. S. I am sorry that your writer did not give Albermarle a slap of the jaws for his low lived, pitiful despotic objection to your keeping the company of Federalist Adams & Clay men. He deserved not only a slap of the jaws, but a peak of the Butt

[Addressed:]

Hon. Willie P. Mangum Esqr  
Orange

To left at  
Red Mountain P. O.  
Mail