

at will, by changing the succeeding meetings of the Council from place to place; but that when it had been once exerted, the authority was exhausted, and could be renewed only by subsequent legislation. The subject was one upon which I had not previously reflected, and the arguments, by the opponents of the measure, had not before occurred to me, and I was not prepared readily to admit the conclusions to which they brought the minds of others; they, however, prevailed with a decided majority, and the measure was defeated by an almost unanimous vote. Whatever my present opinion may be upon the *legal* principle involved in the question, it seems to me to be of very little consequence, as I am persuaded that unless other members have changed theirs since the close of the session, a quorum could not be obtained, who think that the Council can be legally convened at any other place than the one first designated under the law.

"As to the inquiry, whether it will suit my convenience to attend a session, &c., I will remark, that, in the discharge of any public duty, I have ever made my personal considerations yield to the emergency of the case; and that in as much as it is not my privilege to have public measures shaped with a view to suit my individual wishes and convenience, it is not my expectation that they should be so ordered.

"In reply to the last question proposed, I will say, with all due deference and respect for the Executive, that it seems to me, that my individual wishes either for or against the assembling of the Council, ought not to have more weight and influence in directing the action of the Governor, than those of any other citizen of the country. The Governor will, I presume, exercise his discretion upon the subject, and judge of the expediency of the measure proposed, from the exigency of the times, in reference, as well, to the domestic affairs with the General Government."

This, so far as I am advised, was the last attempt to keep alive the Territorial Government of Michigan in Wisconsin. On the 20th of April, 1836, the act organizing the Territory of Wisconsin was approved, and took effect on the 4th July of that year.—