

gation lodged in one room, about fifteen by twenty feet, and our lobby friends roomed with us. Our beds were all full, and the floor well-spread with blankets and over-coats for lodging purposes. The session lasted till the 9th of December. At that session a bill passed locating the seat of government at Madison; but the Legislature appointed Burlington, in Iowa, as the place of the meeting of the next session, until proper buildings could be erected at Madison.

A majority of the members from Wisconsin proper were opposed to making, at that time, a permanent location of the seat of government; we contended for a temporary location at Green Bay or Milwaukee, or any other place, until the country should become more settled. We contended that the members representing the region west of the Mississippi, though they had a legal right, yet they had no just right to vote on and determine the permanent seat of government for Wisconsin Territory, as they expected soon to be set off into a separate Territory of their own—as they were in 1838. I labored hard to prevent a permanent location at that session; but those who favored the measure from Wisconsin proper had some interest in Madison, and the members from the west side of the Mississippi were bought up to go for Madison. Thus the measure was carried by a small majority. As soon as the Governor signed the bill, there was a great rush for the Land Office at Mineral Point, to purchase land in the neighborhood of the newly located capital. The town plat of Madison was divided into twenty shares; I was offered one share for the small sum of two hundred dollars—I presume that was done, thinking, if I accepted it, that I would vote for Madison for the capital; I rejected the offer with disgust, and felt better satisfied than I should to have sold myself for the twentieth part of Madison. When I returned to Green Bay, my friends were well pleased with the course that I had taken.

The year 1837 brought with it a large increase to the population in all parts of the Territory. Early in November the Legislature met at Burlington, and held a session of some ten