




## CORDOVA TOWNSHIP.



CORDOVA lies in the extreme northeast of of the county. It is a fractional township. The first settlement was made in 1836 by Herdman East, who located on the site of the present village. Among those living here in 1838, as remembered by J. S. Phillips, one of the pioneers of that year, are the following named: Nelson Tripp, Chauncy M. Tripp, Wm. Kelley, Dudy Buck, Peter Beardsley, Albram G. Adams, Wm. Armstrong, Jeremiah Rice, Robert Jenks, Wm. Jenks, John Marshall, Dr. Thomas Baker, Benoni Haskins, A. Whiting, Amazi Rathburn, Guy W. Rathburn. Each of these had families. The Tripps were from New York. After remaining here some 15 years they moved to Iowa. Wm. Kelley moved to Rock Island and there died. Dudy Buck moved to Albany and was among the killed in the tornado of June, 1860. The whereabouts of Peter Beardsley is not known. A. G. Adams died here a few years ago. Wm. Armstrong moved south of the village of Port Byron, and has since died. Jeremiah Rice died during the first decade.

In 1838 Wm. Marshall, Sr., and family, Mrs. Elizabeth Cool and family, Jerry L. Cool and family, Joseph R. Sexton and family, and J. S. Phillips—in all, 20 persons—moved into the township, and located near the village of Cordova. Of the 20 persons 12 are still living.

A child of Benoni Haskins is supposed to have been the first death, dying in 1838. It was buried on the hill back of the village. Hugh Daily, who died about 1839, is supposed to have been the second.

Nathaniel Belcher and Miss Jenks and Joseph Mills and Miss Jenks were among the first married.

The first school was probably taught by D. Baker in his own house. Fidelia Rathburn was also among the early teachers.

