

Grace Episcopal Church

Grace Episcopal Church began as a missionary congregation in October 1867 under Rev. George Davis. The building is now on its third site, having been moved from the corner of the Brownella lot in 1893 with funds given by Brown. The original section of the building was designed by the firm of Lloyd and Pearce of Detroit, who later built large cathedrals in Denver and Cleveland, but this section was enlarged and covered with brick veneer after it was moved. The 1859 Italianate frame house that used to sit on the church lot was moved east in 1893 when the church was moved, again with funds

from Brown; it was enlarged to become a rectory in the 1890s and given a brick veneer in the 1900s.



Finally, the buildings are related to Brown's philosophy, for it was his ideas that caused such a furor as he got caught up in the Fundamentalist-Modernist quarrel shaking the Protestant church in the 1920s. In his autobiography, *My Heresy* (1926), he noted that he never considered himself a great intellectual "in the battle against orthodoxy." "All I could do was to spill the beans, and I spilled them all over the place," he said.

While such a colorful controversial figure is hard to place in a small rural community like Galion, the Bishop was apparently well liked in the city, and his lengthy will included many bequests

and instructions to his trustees, including funds to support a hospital or home for the aged in Galion and bequests to his alma mater, Kenyon College. The extensive coverage given his trial, funeral, and will in the *New York Times* attests to the fact that he did, indeed, spill the beans "all over the place."



Historic Grace Church

In 2008, the Galion Historical Society acquired the property from the Episcopal Church to preserve the church building that is so crucial to the history of Bishop William Montgomery Brown.



The beautiful church sanctuary is available for small weddings and the parish house, or assembly hall, is available for wedding receptions, meetings, bridal showers, baby showers, birthday parties, etc.

Please call the Historical Society office for more information - (419) 468-9338

