

Province, are to be decided? Why does not the Constitution speak plainly and precisely on a point of such vital importance to the working of Federal institutions? It is vain to appeal to the "well-understood principles" of the British Constitution as the Urim and Thummim by which all doubts are to be resolved. The British Constitution is National, not Federal, and its principles, even if they were as well understood as the framers of our Constitution assumed, could throw no light on Federal questions. Nor are British judges likely to be the best arbiters: their total ignorance of Canada might secure their impartiality, though it would perplex their apprehension; but they are almost sure to have a leaning to the side of the central authority. We were taken to task the other day for denying that Mr. George Brown was the father of Confederation. Our critics will see that we spoke not without evidence, if they will refer to the important memorandum which is published in the work of Col. Gray (p. 22), and which seems to prove as plainly as anything can that what Mr. Brown demanded in the name of the people of Upper Canada was representation by population without any separating line between the Upper and Lower Province, while he regarded a Confederation of all the Provinces as a remedy not acceptable to his clients, and in itself, though desirable and destined in the end to come, a measure for which the people were unprepared and the adoption of which was uncertain and remote. The Father of Confederation was Deadlock: and Mr. Brown in common with all the other leaders of the jarring factions, as he contributed to the creation of the deadlock, was in that sense a parent of Confederation. Nor did the offspring fail to bear the impress of its origin.

"Got while their souls did huddled notions try  
And born a shapeless mass like anarchy."

One man, Mr. Dunkin, scrutinizing the plan like a statesman, tried to forecast its working, and his predictions are being fulfilled. The main principle of the Federal system, which was the separation of the Central Government from those of the Provinces, has already been broken down by the fusion of Local with Dominion Party. One party being in possession of power at Ottawa, the