

**CONSTITUTIONS MUST BE CONSTRUED TO REFERENCE THE COMMON LAW  
SUMMARY PROCEEDINGS ARE NULL AND VOID**

*"As to the construction, with reference to Common Law, an important canon of construction is that constitutions must be construed to reference to the Common Law. The Common Law, so permitted destruction of the abatement of nuisances by summary proceedings<sup>1</sup> and is was never supposed that a constitutional provision was intended to interfere with this established principle and although there is no common law of the United States in a sense of a national customary law as distinguished from the common law of England, adopted in the several states. In interpreting the Federal Constitution, recourse may still be had to the aid of the Common Law of England. It has been said that without reference to the common law, the language of the Federal Constitution could not be understood." - 16American Jurisprudence 2d., Sec. 114:*

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<sup>1</sup> **Summary proceeding.** Any proceeding by which a controversy is settled, case disposed of, or trial conducted, in a prompt and simple manner, without the aid of a jury, without presentment or indictment, or in other respects out of the regular course of the common law. In procedure, proceedings are said to be summary 'when they are short and simple in comparison with regular proceedings; e., in comparison with the proceedings which alone would have been applicable, either in the same or analogous cases, if summary proceedings had not been available. Sweet. [Blacks Law 4th, and see Phillips v. Phillips, 8 N.J.L. 122.]