

lification determined by law, and consists of not more than twenty-three nor less than twelve jurors; but not less than twelve must join in finding a case against an accused person.

The accusations to be laid before the grand jury are reduced to writing in precise and technical language, and the document thus framed is called a bill. The bills are submitted to the grand jury by the crown or public prosecutor; but in exceptional cases, with the authorization of the presiding judge, they may be preferred by the counsel for the private prosecutor. The prosecuting attorney opens the case, or in other words explains the nature of the charge, but he must take no part in the discussion and must express no opinion either on the law or the facts of the case. The witnesses are brought before the grand jury by the prosecuting attorney and it is his duty to see that none but legal evidence is allowed to go to them. Usually, and for reasons of convenience and the expediting of business, the witnesses are examined by the prosecuting attorney; but any juror may put any questions he wishes to the witnesses, and the grand jury, if they desire it, may take the examination of the witnesses into their own hands and they may even cause the prosecuting attorney to retire. Sometimes the clerk of the crown, or his deputy, with the acquiescence of the grand jury, performs the