

you should only find a true bill as to the second count.

Arson is the wilfully setting fire to a building, a stack or a ship, and is an offence which the law looks upon and punishes as a grave crime. It is no defence to show that the offence was committed without any malice against the owner of the property, for it is an attack on the right of property and a crime against the protection due to society generally ; but where the accused person is charged with setting fire to his own house or buildings, an intent to defraud must be established, as, for example, by proving that he had effected an insurance on the premises.

Forgery, in short, consists in the making or the alteration of a document or commercial writing with intent to defraud. It is equally forgery to apply a false signature to a genuine instrument or a genuine signature to a false instrument ; and it is immaterial whether a false signature is that of a real or of a fictitious person. This crime is one which the commercial world is greatly interested in repressing, to maintain the credit to be given to commercial paper and the speedy transaction of business, and is therefore one for which the law imposes condign punishment.

Perjury is the act of wilfully swearing falsely on a trial, or in some judicial proceeding, or in an affidavit authorized by law, whether the false statement is material or not. Where the