

INFANT BURGLARS.

Operations of a Gang of Juvenile Thieves.

A few days ago two young thieves were arrested and their names placed on the small book in the City Prison to await further developments against them. On the 16th instant Feigenbaum & Co.'s wholesale fancy goods house on the corner of Sansome and Pine streets was robbed, and numerous fancy toys and several valuable music-boxes were stolen. Two days after Allen & Co.'s gun store, at No. 515 Market street, was entered and 112 pistols and a quantity of powder and ammunition taken. Both of these robberies were reported to police headquarters, and Officers Silvey, Cox and Nichols were detailed to work up the matter. The officers for a day or two made diligent search through the pawnshops and second-hand stores, but found no clue. They then came to the conclusion to search the dens of noted characters. While they were passing through Jessie street, near First, they saw a lad showing some companions a beautifully mounted pistol. He was at once questioned, and they obtained such

A CROOKED STORY

From him that they took him to the City Prison. There he was induced to mention his companions' names, and on that information the officers went to work and visited their homes, which were all save one in the vicinity of First street, on Jessie. They found in the house of the one arrested, James Walsh, a quantity of miniature toys and six pistols secreted in a bar in the cellar. They then went to Tim O'Keefe's house adjoining, and there found, on the roof of the house in a bar, twenty-five pistols. Charles Bailey's house was next entered, and in the garret stowed away a sack was discovered, in which were sixteen pistols, a music box valued at \$200, and some miniature fire-engines and toys. In James Labey's house near by they found several pistols and a number of toys. In the cellar of the house where George Gasper lives were found buried three feet under ground eighteen pistols, a lot of toys and a music box worth \$200. In Mary Avery's house, on Jessie street, ten pistols and some toys were recovered, together with a lamp and some ammunition. On Broadway, opposite the County Jail, Benjamin Schmidt was found in his house winding up one of the stolen music boxes, together with several pistols. All those mentioned were arrested.

A GIRL THIEF.

Mary Avery, a disolute little girl aged about 12 years, is the leader of this juvenile band of thieves. She has a damaging record in the line of petty thievery, and they all display a wonderful ability in that particular business. Their methods of connivance at such bold burglaries would reflect credit on experts in this business. At Feigenbaum's store they entered the place about 9 o'clock on Sunday night by climbing upon the roof of a bootblack's shop stationed on the Pine-street side, and so reached the second-story window. Mary Avery and Walsh climbed in while the others stationed themselves outside. An elevator runs up from the first floor by the window, and in that way they lowered the goods from the third floor to the window. At Allen & Co.'s place they pried open the cellar door and gained an entrance. The goods recovered comprise mostly all that were taken from both stores, the value of the property amounting probably to about \$1000. Yesterday the names of these precious juveniles were registered on the regular prison docket, and they will probably sojourn for a term in the Industrial School.