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## STAMP TALK.

CONTINUED FROM LAST ISSUE.

Remainders sell for less than face value and this often leads young collectors to believe that they are reprints. There is a vast difference between reprints and remainders and in my opinion remainders are just as collectible as any other stamps.

Now perhaps some of my readers may not have a clear idea as to what remainders are, so I will explain. Remainders are old issues or at least obsolete stamps which are sold to dealers or collectors, unused at what they will bring, by the government that emitted the stamps. The reason many of the old issues of Cuba are sold and so cheaply is, because the stamps are remainders that were sold a few years ago to dealers at a very low price.

Many collectors on seeing unused stamps of some countries selling for below face put them down at once as "Seebecks" or reprints when in truth

they are remainders.

Old issues are not lacking in beauty of coloring or design but there is a lack of variety in shapes. Take the triangular stamps of Newfoundland and Cape of Hope and a few others and you will have nearly all of the old shapes.

Issues of recent years however come in all kinds of shapes, sizes and designs. Oblong stamps are much more in evidence of late than they were a decade ago. Square stamps however are not seen as often now as they were in the sixties and seventies. Look over your collection or catalogue and you will find proof of my assertion.

x

## U S POSTAGE

BY CHAS. F. ROBINSON.

Two hundred years ago there were but seventy-five post offices in the U. S. while to-day they average into the hundreds of thousands.