ANOTHER UNIDICATIONARY NINE-SQUARE

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The November 1991 Word Ways exhibited a nine-square by Eric Albert with all of its words contained in a single dictionary (Webster’s Second Unabridged), the first one of its kind to be discovered. Can this feat be duplicated with words only from the Oxford English Dictionary? At least two logologists have tried, with varying degrees of success. In the February 1997 Word Ways Richard Sabey presented the first square given below, claiming that it consisted entirely of OED words. ENVEIL (to cover with a veil) and ALECIZE (to dress with ale-sauce) appear in the OED, but there is no indication that these archaic inflections have ever been used in English literature.

NEOPLASIA  BESTRIDES  WORCESTER
ENVEILEST  ECHIPONEMA  OVERLARGE
OVERMERIT  SPERCLIN  RECOINAGE
PERDICINE  THREEERING  CROSSTIED
LIMITINGS  ROGERENES  ELISIONAL
ALECIZEST  INUREMENT  SANTONATE
SERINETTE  DELINATE  TRAINAGES
ISINGSTAR  EMINENTER  EGGEATERS
ATTESTERS  SANGSTERE  REEDLESSE

The second square, created by Chris Long and telephoned to the editor about 1994, has an equal claim to be an OED unidictionary square. THREEERING and ROGERENE are in the OED Supplement, and SANGSTERE is labeled as a 16th-century Scots variant of SONGSTER; however, EMINENTER does not appear anywhere. (However, it is listed as a synonym of EMINENTLY in Webster’s Second).

The third square, also by Chris Long, was published in the September 1993 issue of The Enigma, the official organ of the National Puzzlers’ League. It has the most legitimate claim:

WORCESTER  an early slightly conical red-skinned eating apple
OVERLARGE  excessive in size
RECOINAGE  the process of sending money through the mint a second time
CROSSTIED  knotted across
ELISIONAL  pertaining to the action of suppressing a letter in pronunciation
SANTONATE  a salt of santonic acid derived from santonin, a powerful anthelmintic
TRAINAGES  haulages
EGGEATERS  snakes of the genus Dasypeltis
REEDLESSE  obsolete variant of REDELESS (devoid or destitute of counsel), with a 1494 illustrative quotation