In the November 1971 Word Ways, I presented a number of forms (solid crossword puzzles having simple geometric shapes) which incorporated the names of states intertwined with their nicknames. The editor suggested that the surnames of the Presidents and Vice-Presidents might take kindly to the same treatment. The following is evidence that the mountain laboured and brought forth a mouse.

Forms have been constructed for all but eight of the forty-one distinct President - Vice-President combinations. Next to each form is given the date (or dates) of election of the office-holding pair. The missing pairs are:

- Madison-Gerry 1812
- Jackson-Van Buren 1832
- Harrison-Tyler 1840
- Lincoln-Hamlin 1860
- Grant-Colfax 1868
- McKinley-Hobart 1896
- McKinley-Roosevelt 1900
- Roosevelt-Garner 1932-36

In several of the forms I have been forced to use abbreviations, a somewhat questionable practice. Although many words are extremely unusual, all are bona fide and can be found in English-language dictionaries or reference books. In the interest of brevity I have omitted all references; doubting ThoMases can ask me about words or phrases they disbelieve.

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O 1912 O V O 1916 1828 M J
I R E N S B O N
I S E R T I A S O R
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C B E A L A U R E A T I O N S A H U M P H R E Y W O R R
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L A C D U B U F F L E M I A H A M E S
J A M E S G A R F I E L D T O M P K
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JEFFERSON G 1788 C
ORRERIES OWA 1792 EL
HIATING ADAMS 1808 NI
NETTED ANOSMIA AGYN
AMELS ODOPHONES ARANT
DIRE 1796 GWASHING ONG INDIGO
ANY AMMONIATE MADISON
ME SINGARA S
S AETTA

J MOU 1872 N
MOUNIAX
JAHNS ULLR
JOHNSON PLUS
MAHAKONDE WILSON US GRANT
KENNEDY 1968 AGNEW
SONNINO 1968

1960 EDE 1864 AIN
EGE 1856 N

Y
OSILO
YOULL
JOHNSON

1928 MUSLIN

CAO

HARDING

COOLIDGE

1888 BA

BUNT

MORTON

HARRISON

1828 MAC GIL

1920 MARL

MENDI

CANDID

1968

WINGS

CALHOUN

1968

Roosevelt

Earphones

1904

Parabol

Sautdelet

Sellieres

Tennanters

Rideseasy
Pennsylvania is engaged in an ambitious project of surveying all the hidden words in Webster's Third Edition (a hidden word is one which appears in a multi-word phrase but not as a separate entry, such as OVO in A B OVO). How many such words are there, and what are their properties? He would be interested in knowing whether or not any such studies have been made previously, and would especially welcome collaborators to help search the dictionary (please let the editor know if you are interested).