The apartment which Mr. Lincoln used as an office in which to transact public business and to receive informal visits was on the secondfloor of the White House. Its simpleequipments are those described by Mr. Arnold. It was about 25 by 40 feet in size . In the centre, on the left, was a large white marble fireplace, with big, old-fashioned brass andirons and a large and high brass fender. A wood fire was burning in cold weather. The large windows opened on the beautiful lawn to the south, with a view of the unfinished Washington Monument, the Smithsonion,, the Potomac, Alexandria, and down the river, towards Mount Vernon. Across the Potomac were Arlington Heights and Arlington House, late the residence of Robert E. Lee. On the hills around, during nearly all of his administration, were the white tents of soldiers and field fortifications and camps and in every direction could be seen the brilliant colors of the national flag. The furniture of this room consisted ofa large oak table covered with cloth, extending north and south and it was around this table that the Cabinet sat when it held its meetings. Near the end of the table and between the windows was another table, on the west side of which the President dat in a large arm chair and at this table he wrote. A tall desk, with pigeon holes for papers, stood against the south wall. The only books usually found in this room were the Bible, the United States Statutes, and a copy of Shakespere. There was a few chairs and two plain, hair covered sofas. There were two or three map frames, from which hung military maps , on which the position and movements of the armies were traced. There was an old and discolored engraving of General Jackson on the mantel and a photograph of John Bright. Doors opened intothis room from the room of the Secretary and from the outside hall, running east and west across the House. A bell cord within reach of his hand extended to the Secretary's office. A messenger sat at the door opening from the hall and took in the cards and names of visitors.

(See "The Everyday Life of Abraham Linoln," page 415.)

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