

Ostendorf collection O-76

To improve the photograph by Gardner (left), John G. Nicolay hired an artist to paint in a background of the Executive Mansion furnishings, even including Andrew Jackson's portrait on the wall and John Bright's photograph on the mantel. The carpet, which looked worn in the original picture, was transformed into a luxurious Oriental rug. The artist tried to straighten Nicolay's right leg, but it looks more deformed in the "corrected" version. When Nicolay went to Paris shortly after Lincoln's death, he allowed Paris photographer E. Talons to issue cartes-de-visite of this version.



Ostendorf collection Variant O-76