

253 Beale Street

31st July 1875
Memphis
Tenn

Captain Anderson:

Dear sir:

After

returning home last Friday, I told my mother what you said to me about dress. She said she liked me to be neat, & that she had no doubt - you believed my attention to dress, was the cause of my bad lessons; but I beg to inform you that I do not think that my dress was to blame, & in proof I remind you that to put on a clean pair of pants takes no longer

than to put on a dirty pair: the
same with a shirt & coat.

To put on a clean shirt takes
about two minutes; to adjust my
cravat, two minutes; to put on my
socks & shoes, two minutes; to put
on my coat & pants, three minutes;

As for my ring, I do not take it
off, & I don't think I look in the
glass at my self more than six
minutes; thus making fifteen min-
utes to complete my toilet.

Accordingly, my mother & I arri-
ved at the conclusion that it was
not my watch, chain, or any part
of my clothing that caused my
bad lessons; but that I am too
fond of play & reading novels;

but I intend to reform, & give you
no more occasion hereafter, to com-
plain of my lessons.

With your ^{consent} I shall continue to
come to school with a clean face,
pants, shirt, coat, watch, chain, &
ring.

Yours respectfully

Minor, L. Shrivether

Gave this letter to Anderson July 1875
3 years later in '78 Cary Anderson
took it up & gave it back to me as
a curiosity

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