My dear Dr. Finley:

The book about Mr. Boyden has been feehingly appreciated in my household, as you would know it would be, and I send you my warm thanks for a valued permanent possession. I know of no such book. If it has fellows, it can have no equal; there is such a marked evenness of tone, such an identical inspiration in all the contributions, such elevation and depth, such simplicity — all telling the same quite wonderful story as purely personal expression. I found it beyond measure moving and at the same time, in a chastened and tranquilizing way, exalting. How is it possible to live a more successful life? And to be so alive at the end, so unexhausted. And sharing and directing instead of sidestepping the activities of our "mad Babylon", and yet leaving with everybody the memory of ease and felicity instead of agitated effort. The record these witness-bearing friends have made has caught the spirit it celebrates, it seems to me, and has accordingly a charm which will make me, at least, I feel sure, continually return to it from time to time, as the mood it accords with recurs.

Sincerely,

W. C. Brownell