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Dear Professor Percy,

I am most grateful to you for the copy of your book. I spent yesterday evening going through it, not quite reading it all, and I found much there which seemed novel and worthwhile. Congratulations!

A big problem about explaining change perceived from either texts or archaeology is that both sources are both incomplete and biased, but I do think your view of the symposium and changes in vase habits a very sensible one. But many things do change iconographically after the archaic and it is not always clear whether each of them has a separate meaning or is an indication of something changing in a particular area rather than just a reflection of something more general or views on what is appropriate or sellable on pots rather than life. I am afraid, however, that I do not share your views on Michael Vickers' ideas on Greek art; I have lived too close to them for too long!

With best wishes,

Yours sincerely,

J. Boardman