

3

3. **The Most Important Photographic Record of the First Modern Olympic Games in Athens, 1896. Group of 33 Platinotype Original Photos from the family of the Royal Court Photographer Albert Meyer, Berlin and Misdroy, Germany.**

The photos in cabinet card size are pasted on stiff cardboard with silver blind stamp of Meyer, and silver edges, identification of photos written by Meyer in ink on back. 28 photos are 13x21.2cm or 21.2x13cm (5.1"x8.4" and 8.4"x5.1") and 5 photos are 10.7x16.5cm (4.2"x6.5"). Meyer was one of only seven photographers accredited in Athens 1896, and only about 100 photos taken by all seven accredited photographers are known today. Platinotypes were the most expensive photographic technique of the day. Meyer's firm closed in the early 20th century, and the archives were destroyed during World War II. **Volker Kluge** published "The Pictures of the First Olympiad" in Berlin, Germany in 1996, and all 33 photos are included in his book, with the page numbers shown in brackets below. All EF. (33 photos) (\$35,000)

Photos included in this Lot:

April 5, 1896

The Marble Statue of Georgios Averoff in front of the Panathenean Stadium (p. 55)
The Princeton University Athletics Team (p. 57).
The Hungarian Team (p. 61)

April 6, 1896

The Royal family in the stadium's VIP rostrum (p. 65)
The Bands Play the First Few Bars of Samaras' Hymn (p. 67)
The start of the second heat in the 100 metres (p. 69)
A Greek discus thrower (p. 73), smaller size photo
The Olympic champion in discus, Robert Garrett, USA (p. 75)

April 7, 1896

Foil Fencing in the Zappeion Building (p. 83)
A group of French and Greek foil fencers (p. 83)
Ellery Clark, USA, Olympic champion in the long jump (p. 91), smaller size photo

April 8, 1896

The start of the 100 kilometers cycle race (p. 95)
The royal box at the Velodrome (p. 97)

April 9, 1896

The German Team at the Parallel Bars (p. 101)
The Pan-Hellenic Gymnastics Association at the Parallel Bars (p. 103)
The Greek Panellinios Gymnastikos Syllogos Squad in the Parallel Bar's Team Competition (p. 105)
The German Team on the Horizontal Bar (p. 107)
Carl Schuhmann, winner in the horse vault, became the first German individual Olympic champion (p. 109)
Hermann Weingärtner, Germany, second in the ring event (p. 111)
Hermann Weingärtner, Germany, Olympic champion on the horizontal bar (p. 113)

April 10, 1896

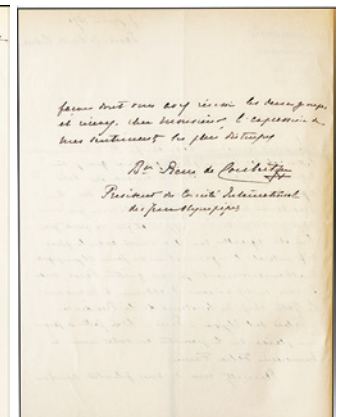
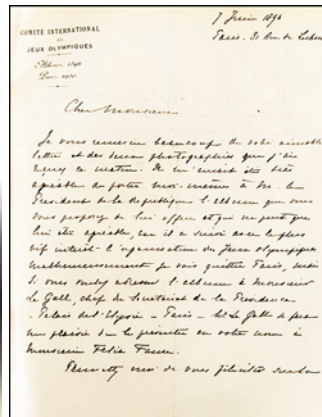
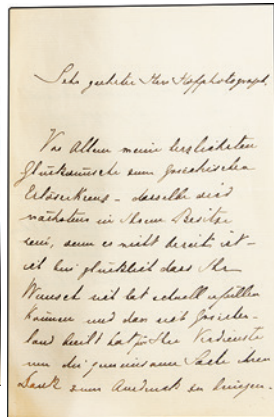
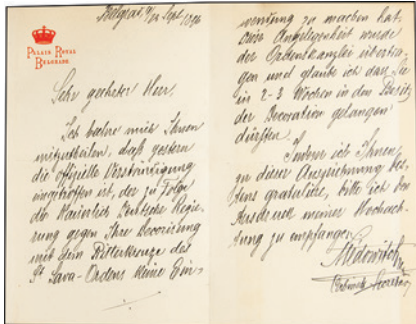
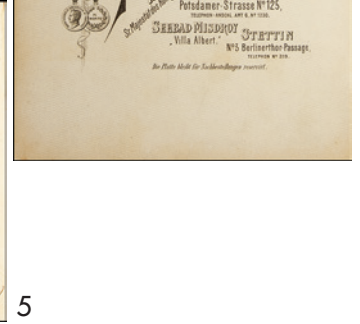
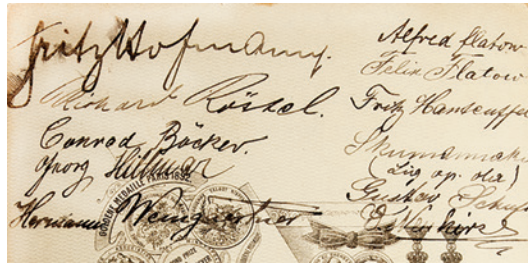
The International Olympic Committee with Gebhardt, Coubertin, Guth-Jarkovsky, Vikelas, Kemény, v. Boutowsky and Balck (p.119)
Alfred Flatow, Germany, Olympic champion on the parallel bars (p. 121)
A gymnast performing a rope exercise (p. 123)
Thomas Curtis, USA, Olympic champion in the 110 meters hurdles (p. 129), smaller size photo
Spiridon Louis, Greece's Olympic champion in the marathon (p. 131)

April 11, 1896

Alfred Hajos, Hungary, winner of the 100 meters freestyle, in a starting pose (p. 139), smaller size photo
Hungary's double Olympic champion in swimming, Alfred Hajos displaying his medals (p. 141), smaller size photo
The German Carl Schuhmann (left) and Georgios Toitas from Greece in the wrestling final (p. 145)
The French cyclist Paul Masson (left) and Léon Flameng (p. 147)
The final of the tennis doubles between Kasdaglis / Petrokokkinos and Boland/Traum (p. 149)
A bleak empty stadium – the closing event of the Olympics had to be postponed because of bad weather (p. 163)

April 15, 1896

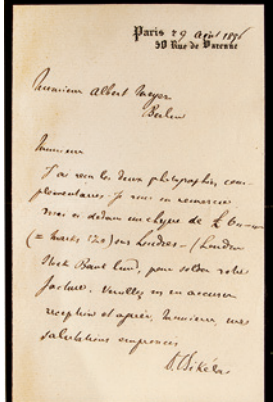
The stadium as the orchestra enters at the closing ceremony of the Olympics (p. 167)
The Olympic champion in the marathon, Spiridon Louis and other prize-winning Greek athletes (p. 171)



4. The German Gymnastics Team in Berlin Before their Departure to the Olympic Games in Athens 1896. Platino-type Photo by Albert Meyer and Signed by all the Team Members on the back. Cabinet format, 21.4x13.4cm (8.4"x5.3"). Shown are Fritz Hofmann, Richard Röstel, Conrad Böcker, Georg Hillmar, Alfred Flatow (middle row, fourth from left), Felix Flatow, Fritz Manteuffel, Carl Schuhmann, in front Hermann Weingärtner and Karl Neukirch. The team won team gold in parallel bars and horizontal bars; individual horizontal bars - Weingärtner gold, and A. Flatow silver; parallel bars - gold by A. Flatow, and 3rd - 5th place by Germany, gold and bronze in Long Horse Vault by Schuhmann and H. Weingärtner who also won silver in Pommel Horse, and Rings. This is the only photo with all signatures kept by Albert Meyer and his family until recently. Upper right small corner crease, o.w. EF. (\$800)

5. Court Photographer Albert Meyer's Collection of Correspondence Relating to the Sale of his Athens 1896 Olympic Photographs. The 63 letters are kept between two stiff red linen covers with "Olympische Spiele-Athen 1896" in gold and Art Nouveau style embossed corners decorations. Albert Meyer was also a smart businessman. He made luxurious photo albums and gifted a few of them to Royalty who in turn bestowed him with titles and medals. Some albums or photos were also sent "on approval" for later payment or return; but some were also only described for sale in a letter. The reaction was mostly enthusiastic about the quality of the albums and photos. Included in the collection are: 20 letters from Royalty Courts which include the Kings of Belgium, Sweden, Saxony, Serbia,

The Crown Prince receives the IOC members - Meyer had the members sign their names on his sketch.



Please Bid Early!



6

6



7



6



8



9

the Crown Prince of Greece, Empress Viktoria from Germany. 28 letters from **IOC Members** – 10 letters of **Pierre de Coubertin**; 3 letters from Balck of Sweden, Boutowsky of Russia and Kemeny of Hungary; additionally, 6 letters from Georg Streit (Organizing Committee) and 2 letters from IOC President Vikelas. 3 letters from **Politicians** include President Faure of France. And 12 letters from **Germans in Athens**: the German Embassy, three book dealers, Giet, gymnastic teacher of the Royal Princes, Director Wolters of the German Archeological Institute. All letters are written in ink by hand, many with their envelopes, stamps and seals. Wolfgang Decker and Bernd Wirkus published a 170-page book in German in 2019. "Der Hofphotograph Albert Meyer" (translated: The Court Photographer Albert Meyer and the Olympic Games 1896 in Athens). It includes 63 letters with comments relating to the early history of the Olympic Movement. They transcribed every German or French handwritten letter into print – a monumental task! A few of the letters were also photographed, all have comments and explanations. Some of their information is in the description. The book is included in the lot. Front cover water stained, faded, letters and envelopes inside EF. A unique and amazing collection. **(\$8,000)**

6. **Albert Meyer Luxurious Book-like Case Housing 6 Large Athens 1896 Photos, and a Large Amount of Meyer Family Photos, Letters, Newspaper Clippings, Documents, a Berlin 1936 Magazine and Postcards, etc.** The case was made for the 75th Anniversary of the Technical College in Hannover, 1906. Embossed leather, partially gilt, about 32.5x41cm (12.8"x16.1"), 6cm (2.5")

high, with attached small gold crown. Included are four Athens 1896 photos, 22.8x16.5cm (9"x6.5"), one photo 17x23.2cm, and another photo 12.8x18.3cm. **April 4, 1896:** The Royal family in the stadium; The bands play the first few bars of Samara's Hymn; **April 8:** The Pan-Hellenic Gymnastics Association at the parallel bars; **April 9:** Hermann Weingärtner, Germany, Olympic champion on the horizontal bar. **April 14:** A bleak empty stadium – the closing event had to be postponed because of bad weather. **April 15:** The Olympic marathon champion Spiridon Louis and other Greek athletes with their prizes. Furthermore a photo of Albert Mayer, a large photo of his wife as equestrian (she assisted him with the photography in Athens), many family photos including Meyer's daughter Herbertine's husband Gebbing, Zoo director in Leipzig. Impressive case has stains on front, 1896 photos with blank reverse EF, other documents VF-EF. **(\$2,000+)**

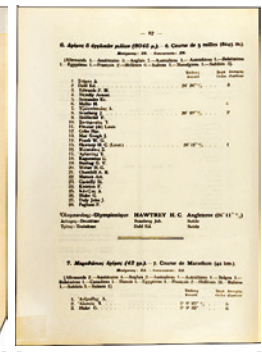
- 7. **St. Louis 1904. Participation Medal.** Bronze, 40x40mm, made by Dieges & Clust, New York. Nude athlete striding r., laurel branch in hand. Rev. Legend in eleven lines, shields of St. Louis, France and U.S.A. between ivy leaves. Lightly toned EF. Rare. **(\$17,000)**
- 8. **St. Louis 1904. Third Place Winner's Medal in the (Olympic) Western Handicap Meeting Awarded for Two Miles Run Won by Milton A. Hellman on July 29, 1904.** Bronze, 30mm, by Mermod & Jaccard, St. Louis. Olive branch dividing meeting information, running shoe at right. Rev. Engraved "Two Miles Run". Suspended from mural crown bar with legend "1904/ Universal Exposition / Olympic Games / St. Louis". *All events in St. Louis were considered Olympic events.* Toned EF. **(\$3,000)**
- 9. **Athens 1906. American Olympic Committee Member's Badge.** Gold, 32x44mm, by Dieges & Clust, New York. Greek and U.S. shield over "MEMBER", female on medallion between green olive branches below. "Olympic Games/Held at Athens Greece/1906" legend on sides. Two prongs on rev. *Earliest U.S. American Committee badge.* EF. **(\$2,200)**



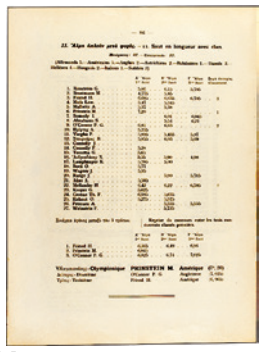
10



11



11



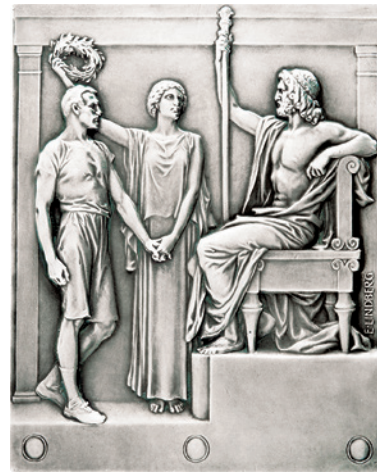
12



13



10. **Athens 1906. Gold First Place Winner's Medal Housed in its Presentation Case.** Goldplated silver, 50mm, by J. Chaplain. Laureated head of Zeus facing right holding winged statue of Victory with laurel branch on globe. Rev. View of Acropolis and Parthenon between Olympic legend. *Similar to 1896 winner's medal - only the date on the reverse was changed to 1906.* Housed in round presentation case. Nick on obv., small spots, EF. **(\$7,000)**
11. **Athens 1906. The Official Results / Report. Bulletin of the Committee of the Olympic Games in Athens, No. 4, June 2, 1906. International Olympic Games 1906 Results.** 106pp., 21.5x28.5cm (8.5"x11.2"), in Greek and French. **This is the actual report of the 1906 Games** with list of all participants; list of each participant with result for each event, list of jury members, etc. Bound in linen and marbled boards, contents browning, disbound. First four pages lower right corner chipped, vertical center crease. VF. Extremely rare official report. **(\$6,000)**
12. **London 1908. Comité d' Honneur Badge.** Goldplated, partial red enamel, 48x56mm, made by Vaughton. Helmeted head left of Pallas Athene, laurel branch at left. *The recipients of the Honor Committee included a few IOC members.* Elbel S-5. Very rare in gold, a beautiful badge! EF. **(\$8,000)**
13. **First Russian Olympiad in Kiev, 1913. Bronze Third Place Winner's Medal.** Bronze, 53mm, by Joseph Marshak. Nude discus thrower, view of Kiev in background. Rev. City shield, crossed oak and olive branch below. *Russia participated the first time in Olympic Games in Stockholm 1912. The Russian team came in second to last of 18 participating nations. Grand Duke Dmitrii Pavlovich oversaw the Russian Olympic Games in order to train athletes for better results in the next Olympic Games in Berlin 1916. The Sports Ground for the Games was the first permanent stadium in Russia. The "Cartier of Kiev", Joseph Marshak, main competitor of Karl Fabergé, created the winner's medal for the First Russian Olympic Games. See Bubka, Sergey and Bulatova, M.M. "Kiev - The First Russian Olympiad 1913", with much information and many photos.* EF, spot obv. Very rare. **(\$2,600)**



14



14. **Modern Pentathlon Challenge Prize Presented to Pierre de Coubertin by the Panama-Pacific Exposition in San Francisco, 1915.** Silverplated bronze, 8.5x10.4cm (3.4"x4.1"), by E. Lindberg. Zeus seated on throne being presented the modern Olympic Pentathlon winner by ancient Greek female holding olive wreath above the winner's head. Rev. 13-line inscription in French between 5 olive wreaths symbolizing the 5 Olympic rings, and two mermaids holding each other symbolizing the Meeting of the Atlantic and Pacific Oceans. *Coubertin created and introduced the Modern Pentathlon in Stockholm 1912. This prize in gold was to be awarded to the winner who could keep it to the next Olympiad. It did not happen; the only gold plaque was presented to Coubertin, about 5 silverplated plaques were presented to Olympic officials. The Fair officials had planned to have "International Olympic Games" with a Modern Pentathlon event but instead only a Marathon was held on "Olympic Day".* Extremely rare, and a beautiful plaque. EF. **(\$6,000)**

Please Bid Early!