

Sherring's Career



WILLIAM J. SHERRING was born in the City of Hamilton, Canada, on the nineteenth of September, eighteen hundred and seventy-eight. Hamilton has been his home since birth. He received his education in St. Mary's school and during his school-boy days took an active interest in out-door sports, especially running. As a lad he was fleet of foot and could cover 100 yards faster than his companions. At 14 he joined the Boys' Club of the Y. M. C. A. and shortly after won the all-round competition among the juniors. At the time of leaving for Greece he was employed in the service of the Grand Trunk Railway Company. His height is 5 feet 6 inches, and he weighs 112 pounds. Commencing in 1897 at a country fair in a five mile race, in which he finished third, he has at length found "room at the top," finishing first in the great Greek Marathon of 1906. In his interesting career he has come into competition with the leading long-distance runners of the world, and by careful training and pure grit has at length won the blue ribbon event of the world.

- 1897—Third in five-mile race at Bartonville Fair.
Third in Dundas race, 10 miles.
Won one-mile race at Y.M.C.A. championship contests.
Third in Herald race.
- 1898—Member Hamilton Y.M.C.A. Relay Team. Reduced Hamilton-Toronto record by thirty minutes.
Second in Y.M.C.A. five-mile race.
Second in one-half mile race at Guelph.
Defeated in matched race by Lacker, U.C.C. crack.
Fourth in Herald race.
- 1899—Defeated Jim Barnard in six-mile matched race.
Lost half-mile race to Barnard at Waterdown Fair.
Won five-mile race at Waterdown Fair in 29.05.
Won a mile race at Port Dover and six-mile race at Buffalo.
Won Herald race, Caffery second, in 1.53.30.
- 1900—Lost to Harry Allison, of Buffalo, in three-mile matched race.
Ran second to Jack Caffery in Boston Marathon.
Ran second to Caffery in Herald Road Race.
Defeated Jim Barnard in a ten-mile matched race at Galt.
Lost to Jack Caffery in ten-mile matched race at cricket grounds.
Won ten-mile race at Oddfellows' demonstration at Milton in 56.10.
- During 1901 and 1902 he did not start in many important races. He won a twenty-mile race at Guelph in 1901.
- 1903—Second in ten-mile race at Hamilton summer carnival.
Won time prize for Dundas handicap race.
- 1904—He was selected to represent Canada at St. Louis, but owing to an injury he was unable to start.
- 1906—Winner World's Greatest Road Race (Marathon) twenty-six miles, at Athens, Greece, May 1. Lowered the record by 4 minutes and 17 seconds.



Athene (Minerva)

Athene of the Greeks (Minerva of the Romans) was the goddess of wisdom, war, and the liberal arts. She contended with Neptune the right of naming Athenae (Athens). Minerva produced the olive and was granted the honor of naming the city. She is variously represented. A replica of one of her famous statues was won by Sherring at Athens.