



HENRI DE
TOULOUSE-LAUTREC

Posters

1891

of times in portrait and caricature by Lautrec has up to now succeeded in escaping all necrologists and is now delighting a third generation with her songs and stories. Tempora mutantur! In 1930 one has good "write-ups" by the help of which one makes one's way to the admiring envy of one's fellow-men, and in 1895 one had the good draughtsman to aid one to victory. In the end, the whole victory may have been due to him. But he must be a popular figure, and Lautrec was. Most of all was he popular among the artists and Bohemians who gave the color to the Paris of the last years of last century. It was the ambition, the dream, the triumphal joy of Paris to be drawn by Lautrec. He measured the charms and weaknesses of his friends with his uncannily keen eye. He conjured up the artists of Montmartre with a few strokes on a piece of paper, and before one lay a figure of incisive, arresting effect, a live poster. They wander past us in brightly-colored rows, beginning with Aristide Bruant, the popular leading cabaret-artist of the day, whom he magically