

fore very rashly and absurdly blames *Apicius*, on account of certain preparations which to him, forsooth, were displeasing^m. In short it is a known maxim, that *de gustibus non est disputandum*;

And so Horace to the same purpose :

‘ Tres mihi convivæ prope dissentire videntur,
 ‘ Poscentes vario multum diversa palato.
 ‘ Quid dem? quid non dem? renuis tu quod jubet
 ‘ alter.
 ‘ Quod petis, id sane est invisum acidumque
 ‘ duobus.

Hor. II. Epist. ii.

And our Roll sufficiently verifies the old observation of Martial — *ingeniosa gula est*.

Our Cooks again had great regard to the eye, as well as the taste, in their compositions; *flourishing* and *strewing* are not only common, but even leaves of trees gilded, or silvered, are used for ornamenting messes, see N^o 175ⁿ. As to colours, which perhaps would chiefly take place in subtleties, blood boiled and fried (which seems to be something singular) was used for dying black, 13. 141. saffron for yel-

^m Lister, Præf. ad Apicium, p. xi.

ⁿ So we have *lozenges of gold*. Lel. Collect. IV. p. 227. and a wild boar's head *gylt*, p. 294. A peacock with *gylt neb*. VI. p. 6, *Leche Lambart gylt*, *ibid*.