

as a very able *Italian* critic, *Latinus Latinus*, passed
 a sinister and unfavourable censure on certain seem-
 ingly strange medlies, disgusting and preposterous
 messes, which we meet with in *Apicius*; *Dr. Lister*
 very sensibly replies to his strictures on that head,
 That these messes are not immediately to be rejected,
 because they may be displeasing to some. *Plutarch*
 testifies, that the ancients disliked *pepper* and the
 sour juice of lemons, insomuch that for a long time
 they only used these in their wardrobes for the sake
 of their agreeable scent, and yet they are the most
 wholesome of all fruits. The natives of the *West*
Indies were no less averse to *salt*; and who would
 believe that *hops* should ever have a place in our
 common beverage¹, and that we should ever think
 of qualifying the sweetness of malt, through good
 housewifry, by mixing with it a substance so egre-
 giouly bitter? Most of the *American* fruits are ex-
 ceedingly odoriferous, and therefore are very dis-
 gusting at first to us *Europeans*: on the contrary, our
 fruits appear insipid to them, for want of odour.
 There are a thousand instances of things, would
 we recollect them all, which though disagreeable to
 taste are commonly assumed into our viands; indeed,
 custom alone reconciles and adopts fauces which are
 even nauseous to the palate. *Latinus Latinus* there-

¹ The Italians still call the hop *cattiva erba*. There was a peti-
 tion against them t. H. VI. Fuller, Worth. p. 317, &c. Evelyn,
 Sylva, p. 201. 469. ed. Hunter.