

## NOVA SCOTIA ( 6 ) ALMANACK.

DECEMBER, the twelfth month, from the Latin word Decem, ten ; so called because it was the tenth from March, which was anciently the manner of beginning the year.

Although we retain these names given to the months by the Romans, their successors, our Saxon progenitors, gave to them names more significant.

JANUARY was expressed by a Saxon word, signifying Wolf-month, because in that month wolves were most mischievous to them, for that through the extremity of cold and snow, they could not find beasts sufficient to satisfy their ravenous appetites.

FEBRUARY was expressed by a Saxon word, signifying Cole-wort, or Spring-wort ; because then the worts begin to sprout.

MARCH was called the lengthening month ; because then the days begin in length to exceed the nights.

APRIL was signified by a word implying the Easter month ; because their Easter generally fell in April.

MAY was called the three milkings ; because they then milked their cattle three times a day.

JUNE was called the Meadow-month ; because then they turned their cattle out to feed in the meadows.

JULY was called a Hay-month ; because then they generally cut their hay.

AUGUST was called the Barn-month ; for in this month they generally filled their barns.

SEPTEMBER was called the Grist-month ; for in this month they carried their new corn to the mill.

OCTOBER was called the Wine-month ; for then grapes were usually pressed to make wines.

NOVEMBER was called the Windy-month ; because of the high winds happening commonly in that month.

DECEMBER was called the Winter month ; because of the cold then growing intense ; and afterwards the Holy-month, on account of the nativity of Christ.

### DAYS OF THE WEEK.

OUR *Saxon Ancestors* were exceedingly idolatrous, doing homage to various objects ; some material, and others the mere creation of their own untutored imaginations.

Seven of their deities were more particularly adored than the rest ; viz , the *Sun, Moon, Tuisko, Woden, Thor, Friga, and Seater*, to whom, respectively, the days of the week were consecrated.

SUNDAY, called by the SAXONS, *Sunandaeg*, was dedicated to the SUN, which was their chief deity, as well as that of the PAGANS. In the Temple consecrated to the SUN, was an idol representing the bust of a man set upon a pillar, his face darting bright rays. His arms were extended, and he held a wheel before his breast, typical of the circuit which the SUN is poeticaly represented to make round our EARTH.