

Idus the 13th ; but in the months of March, May, July, and October the Nonae fall on the 7th and the Idus on the 15th.

2. All the other days of a month are stated by counting backwards from any of the three principal days, but in such a manner as to include the day from which we start (the *terminus a quo*). Hence, e.g., the last day of the month of August will be expressed by *pridie (ante) Kalendas Septembres*; and the day before that by *tertio (ante) Kalendas Septembres*, and so on back to the Ides, and thence again to the Nones. Hence on the day before the Ides will be *pridie (ante) Idus*, and the day before that *tertio (ante) Idus*, and so also *pridie (ante) Nonas*, and *tertio* or *quarto (ante) Nonas*, &c.

3. In regard to the Kalendae which are an extra day beyond the current month, a second day must be added to the number of days in the current month, whence, e.g., *tertio (ante) Kalendas Julius* is the 29th of June.

NOTE.—The names of the Roman months are the same as ours, which are in fact borrowed from the Romans; but before the time of the Emperor Augustus July was called *Quinctilis*, and August *Sextilis*, which names were then changed in honour of Julius Caesar and Augustus. The names of all the months are in reality adjectives with which the substantive *mensis* (month) is understood, and sometimes also expressed. In the plural they agree with the plural substantives Kalendae, Nonae, and Idus.

4. When a date is mentioned in answer to the question When? it is expressed, as usual, by the ablative of an ordinal numeral and the preposition *ante*, as *die tertio ante Kalendas Julius*. But both the word *die* and *ante* are commonly omitted, as *tertio Kalendas*, or the preposition is transposed and placed before the numeral, but leaving the accusative *Kalendas* unaltered, as *ante diem tertium Kalendas Julius*. In this case the words *ante diem* are treated as one indeclinable substantive, and may be preceded by a second preposition, as in *ante diem tertium Kalendas Julius*, for the third day before the Kalends of July; *ex ante diem quintum Idus Octobres*, beginning from the fifth day before the Ides of October.

NOTE.—The word *pridie* may be followed either by the genitive or the accusative, the latter being dependent on *ante* understood, as *pridie Kalendarum* or *Kalendas*.

5. In leap years, the month of February has one day more, and this intercalary day is inserted after the 23rd of February—that is, on the 6th day before the Kalends of March. Hence the leap year itself was called *bis sextus*, the 23d and 24th being both *sextus ante Kalendas Martias*, perhaps distinguished by the attributes *prior* and *posterior*.

The following table contains the complete Calendar of an ordinary year, from which it will not be difficult to identify a Roman date with our own :—