Quill. (Am. Ail.) n. [Ger. Stiel; Dan. Stel; Lat. culmar; Gr. κυλλας, a reed]. The large, strong feather of a goose, or other large bird:—used for writing-pens, &c. Hence, the instrument of writing; a pen. —The spine or prickle of a porcupine. —A piece of small reed or other hollow plant, on which weavers wind the thread which forms the web of cloth.

(Med.) The implement with which musicians strike the strings of certain instruments.

"His tiring fagers and harmonious quill." — Dryden.

—Something formed like a quill, as the plait of a ruffle.

To carry a good quill, to write well.

—i.e. To plait, or to form with small ridges; as, to quill a ruff. —To wind on a quill, as yarn.