

DR. M'GILL'S DEATH.

The Great Preacher and Educator was
Once a Resident of Georgia.

New York, January 15.—Dr. Alexander T. McGill, who died in Princeton yesterday, spent a part of his life in Milledgeville, Georgia. He graduated in 1816, and soon after his health failed. By advice of friends he went to Milledgeville.

There were no railroads in those days and he made the journey on horseback. He took charge of the Baldwin Academy, and at the end of a year began the study of law with ex-Governor Mitchell. He was admitted to practice in 1830, William H. Crawford, a judge and once candidate for President of the United States, signing his license. Soon young McGill began to take part in politics and became clerk of the Georgia Legislature.

The Cherokee Indians then had a reservation in the northern part of the state and the federal government gave them lands elsewhere. Mr. McGill was appointed surveyor of the Indian reservation tract. The savages were opposed to white men entering their territory, and Surveyor McGill went to his work guarded by a company of cavalrymen. He was much harassed, and only completed the survey through the aid of two men—Butler and Worcester. They were missionaries and named Missionary Ridge, which became famous in the civil war. Standing on the ridge with the missionaries to assist him, young McGill explained to the Indians gathered around the object of the survey. They were convinced the white stranger did not intend doing them any wrong, and permitted him to go on with his work.

After practicing law two or three years in Georgia Mr. McGill returned, also on horseback, to Canonsburg. He had saved some money and was able to resume the study of theology, which he had never willingly given up. In 1835 he was ordained to the ministry and in 1838 became pastor of the Second Presbyterian church in Carlisle. Four years later he was made professor in the Presbyterian Theological Seminary in Allegheny City. His success in that famous institution was so marked that, while connected with it, he was offered the presidency of five different colleges. In 1852 Professor McGill's health failed again, and he accepted a professorship in the theological seminary in Columbia, S. C. He went south rather reluctantly, his wife, a strong anti-slavery woman, objecting to a permanent residence in that section. In 1853 his health was restored, and they returned to the Allegheny City seminary. In the summer of 1884 Dr. McGill was transferred to the Princeton seminary. In this institution he filled various chairs, and was made Emeritus professor in 1885 and virtually retired. His name remained at the head of the catalogue as long as he lived.