

A Rorke's Drift Hero.

On Friday night, at his residence, Hunter-street, Parramatta, William Roy, late of the 24th Regiment, passed away at the early age of 35, after a long and painful illness. He enlisted at the age of 14, served in the Kaffir War of 1877, the conflict with the Boers in '78, and distinguished himself in the Zulu War the following year. Roy was present at the memorable struggle of Rorke's Drift; he and a comrade (who received a bullet wound through his ear) being the only members of their company who survived the terrible encounter. He was subsequently decorated by the Queen with medals for bravery and good conduct; Her Majesty also presenting him with a handsome Bible. The hardships and exposure Roy had been subjected to made sad inroads on an originally robust constitution; and in 1883, at the suggestion of his brother, John Roy, of Parramatta, he came to this colony in hopes of recruiting his failing health. He had not been here two years before his sight, which had been failing some time, was entirely lost; and, blind and paralysed, he lingered on till Friday night last, when death released him from his sufferings. His remains were interred in the Baptist Cemetery, Parramatta, on Sunday afternoon, two of his old comrades from Sydney being among the little band of mourners who watched the earth close over the mortal remains of the departed hero.