

OBITUARY: GEORGE COOKE ATTFIELD, 1925


THE OLDEST DOCTOR.

DEATH OF AN ARDENT CRICKETER.

Dr. George Cook Attfield, believed to be the oldest doctor in England, has died at his home at Hove, Sussex, from pneumonia. He would have been 90 to-morrow week.

For many years Dr. Attfield had been regarded as the "father" of St. Bartholomew's Hospital, Smithfield, E.C.1., where he qualified in 1850. At that time chloroform was the only anæsthetic in general use. Appendicitis and many other diseases now common had not been discovered. He had recollections of a great cholera epidemic which swept London in 1842-43.

An ardent cricketer, Dr. Attfield played for Somerset and Surrey, and during his last illness asked daily for news about the Test match in Australia.



Dr. G. C. Attfield.

This obituary - from an unnamed newspaper - also contains the only photograph of Dr. George Cooke Attfield which I've yet discovered.

It was sent to me by Charles Attfield in Australia, who obtained it from his father. I am most grateful to Charles for supplying the cutting.