## THE SOMERSET AND WEST OF ENGLAND ADVERTISER 30 APRIL 1908

## **BUDDHIST MISSION TO ENGLAND**

The chief and founder of the International Buddhist Society, the Bhikkhu Ananda Metteyya, who has come from Rangoon to carry through a mission for the purpose of converting the people of England to Buddhism, landed on Wednesday at the Albert Dock from the steamship Ava. The priest, who was born in London, and was christened Allan Bennett Macgregor, was at one time assistant to Dr. Dyer, the famous analyst. Seven years ago—at the age of 28—he went out to Ceylon, where he became interested in the teachings of Buddha, and decided to become a monk. He was admitted into the order at Akyab, and shortly afterwards founded the society at Rangoon.

The Bhikkhu, who was accompanied by three native ladies, Mrs. Hla Oung, Mrs. Bah Oung, and Mrs. Hbay, the wife of a Burmese judge, was met by Professor Mill and other members of the Buddhist Society of Great Britain and Ireland. In an interview with a Press representative, he explained that he had visited England to teach the tenets of Buddhism in this country.

"Buddhism", he declared, "is not opposed to Christianity or to any religion; it rather supplements them." He will deliver in London a series of lectures, which have already been arranged.