

UNIVERSITY OF PENNSYLVANIA  
PHILADELPHIA

WHARTON SCHOOL OF  
FINANCE AND COMMERCE

April 8, 1924

Dean William A. Mikell,  
The Law School,  
University of Pennsylvania

My dear Dean Mikell:

I beg to acknowledge your favor of April 7th relative to Mrs. Sadie Mossell Alexander, who is applying for one of your scholarships.

Mrs. Alexander, while Miss Mossell, was a graduate student in several of my classes and did most excellent work. In fact, she stood at the head of the class, and took her Doctor's (Ph.D) degree to the entire satisfaction of the faculty in Economics. Her thesis was referred to as a fine piece of work. She was always courteous and possesses a pleasing personality. I can recommend her scholarship most highly.

I should add that Mrs. Alexander belongs to the colored race, although she is very light in color. A short time ago, she married Mr. Raymond Pace Alexander, who was also an excellent student at the Wharton School, and subsequently at Harvard. While Mr. Alexander has started the practice of law, I am inclined to think that the finances of the couple are not too abundant. I also have reason to believe that Mrs. Alexander is attempting to qualify ~~for~~ the *law* with a view to assisting her husband.

I should also have added that Mrs. Alexander, in addition to being well grounded in Economics, is thoroughly posted in Insurance, and possesses a fair knowledge of Actuarial Science.

Should you desire any further information, kindly let me know.

Sincerely yours,

  
S. S. Huebner

UNIVERSITY OF PENNSYLVANIA  
PHILADELPHIA

THE SCHOOL OF EDUCATION  
J. H. MINNICK, DEAN

April 8, 1924

Dr. W. E. Mikkell, Dean,  
The Law School.

My dear Dr. Mikkell:

I have your letter inquiring concerning Miss Sadie Mossell Alexander. May I call your attention to the fact that her name is Mrs. Sadie Mossell Alexander. She was Miss Sadie Mossell when a student in the School of Education.

She graduated from our institution with a very high scholastic record. After graduation she pursued graduate work in the University of Pennsylvania. I believe she took her doctor's degree in Sociology where, and, I understand, did distinguished work. Following that she spent some time in the South, as I understand it, in connection with an insurance company. Recently she married a Mr. Alexander who I believe is in the law profession. Mrs. Alexander is a colored woman of a very high type. She has a fine personality and makes a good personal appearance. I feel that if she entered your Law School she would do a high grade of work.

As to her resources, I am unable to speak. I know nothing of her financial conditions. I do know, however, she feels very intensely on the race problem and was the cause of some disturbance when in our school. She was somewhat unreasonable in her demands that we should require city schools to give colored students exactly the same privileges in practice teaching that the white students have. You can readily see that as the public schools are not part of the University we could not do this. I feel, however, that perhaps even in this case, remembering the oppression of her people, she is to be excused. I shall be pleased to talk further with you about this matter if you care to do so.

Very truly yours,

JHM:RFJ

*J. H. Minnick*

UNIVERSITY OF PENNSYLVANIA

TO Dean Mikell

FROM Dean Ames

DATE April 8th, 1924.

SUBJECT Mrs. Sadie Mossell Alexander

Dear Dean Mikell:

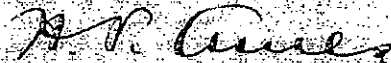
In response to your inquiry in regard to Mrs. Sadie Mossell Alexander may I say that Mrs. Alexander was, before her marriage, then Miss Mozell, a student in the Graduate School for three years, from 1918 to 1921. She received her A.M. majoring in History in 1919, and her Ph.D. in Economics in 1921.

She is one of the ablest women students we have had in many years and without doubt the ablest colored student that we have ever had in the Graduate School. She is a mulato. Last fall she was married to Mr. Alexander who took his Bachelor's Degree at this University and I understand his Law degree at Harvard.

Mrs. Alexander is an extremely interesting and able woman. Shortly after she took her Doctor's Degree until the time of her marriage she was connected with the Actuary Department of a Negro Insurance Society located at Durham, N.C.

I can cordially recommend her as worthy of a Scholarship in every particular.

Very sincerely yours,



Dean.

HVA:W

# Commonwealth of Pennsylvania



DEPARTMENT OF STATE AND FINANCE

HARRISBURG

THE SECRETARY OF THE COMMONWEALTH

April eighth  
1924

Dean W. E. Mikell,  
The Law School,  
University of Pennsylvania,  
Philadelphia, Penna.

My dear Dean Mikell:

Greetings!

Miss Sadie Mossell was in my graduate classes before she was Mrs. Alexander. She is one of the first three colored women in the United States to get her Ph. D. I think every member of the Wharton School Graduate Faculty who had Miss Mossell in their classes regarded her as one of the most capable women graduate students we have ever had. At that time she was dependent on her own resources. She has married a lawyer, Alexander, and I assume that he is a struggling member of the Bar and that she is likewise dependent now for school work on her own resources, but on this I do not have complete information.

I have not the slightest hesitation in recommending Mrs. Alexander for your consideration. She is capable, worthy, has splendid ideals and wants to fit herself adequately for service to her race. She comes of a splendid family. Her grandfather was at one time Bishop in the A.M.E. Church and her entire family has a reputation of being among the very best colored families in the City of Philadelphia.

Very sincerely yours,

*Clyde L. King*  
Clyde L. King

CLK:f