

Woman Often Before Linn Public Summoned at Albany Home

Front Page of the Albany
Democrat Herald
Monday March 28, 1927



Use this side to write down any important information you heard.

1 Mrs. Amanda Gardner Johnson, 94 a resident of Albany and vicinity for 74 years died at the home of Mrs. Maude Henderson at 807 Calapooia Street Sunday morning following a prolonged illness. Mrs. Johnson was born in Liberty, Clay County, Missouri. August 30, 1833.

2 She lived in the home of Mrs. Lydia Corum Deckard and died at the home of Mrs. Henderson a granddaughter of Mrs. Deckard. She had known several generations of the Deckard family. She crossed the plains by ox team in 1853 with A. Deckard being on the plains six months. The family located near Albany where she has since resided.

3 On April 12, 1870 she married Ben Johnson who died January 21, 1902. The wedding was performed by Reverend T. Wilson of the United Presbyterian church at the home of Mr. and Mrs. James Foster who gave her a fine wedding. During the married life of Mr. and Mrs. Johnson their home was at the corner of Seventh and Elm Streets where she continued to reside for several years after the death of Mr. Johnson until taking up her home with Miss Henderson. Mrs. Johnson was baptized by the Baptist church when she was 14 years old in Missouri by Rev. James, father of Jesse James later becoming a member of Congregation Church of Albany and also the W.O.T.U.

4 Mrs. Johnson had 5 brothers and 6 sisters, of whom the youngest brother is supposed to survive at Liberty Missouri. They all remained in the Estes, Corum and Deckard families following the days of slavery prior to the Civil War.

5 The funeral services will be held at the Fortmiller funeral home beginning at 2 o'clock Tuesday afternoon. Rev. Alllyn E. will officiate. Burial will be in the Masonic cemetery beside her husband. The pallbearers selected are relatives and special friends of the Deckard and Henderson families...



Amanda Gardner Johnson and Benjamin Johnson

Source #2
Day 2



Questions to guide the discussion

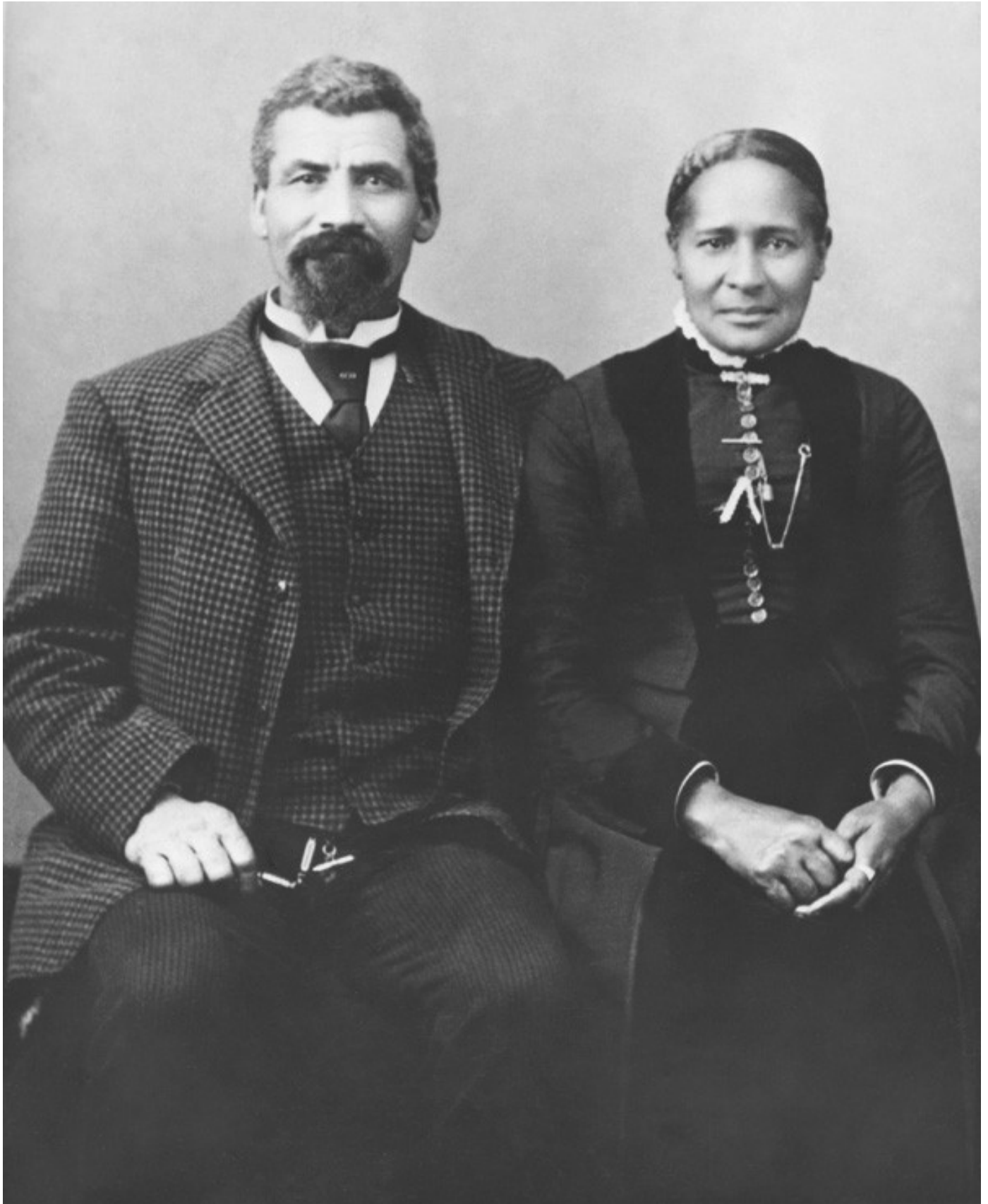
- What do you notice about this photograph?
- Why do you think this photograph was taken?
- What is happening in this image?
- What questions do you have for the subjects?

During your lesson share the full image of the Johnsons with your students. Use this source page and the questions provided on the right hand side to guide your conversation.

After asking the questions to right right, you can share the following details about this image:

1. When she was 35 years old Amanda Gardner became engaged to a blacksmith named Benjamin Johnson.
2. On April 12th, 1870 Amanda and Benjamin were married.

Source #2
Day 2



Aunt Amanda Johnson Recalls Trip Across the Plains with Missouri Fold Who Comprised Albany's Earliest Settlers

Albany Public Library-Linn County History
Vertical File Biographies



Use this side to take notes on what you learn in this section. What do you wonder about based on what you read?

1 Aunt Amanda Johnson of Albany, is past 90 years of age. She was born, a slave, in Missouri during Andrew Jackson's administration as president of the United States.

2 When seven years of age she was given by her owner, Mrs. Nancy Corum, to a daughter, Miss Lydia Corum, as a wedding present when Miss Lydia was married to Anderson Deckard. When 14 years of age she was baptized by a minister named James. His son, Jesse James, was the notorious bandit and robber.

3 After Auntie Johnson had been with the Anderson Deckard family for 12 years, the family decided to go to Oregon. Amanda was then a little more than 19 years of age.

4 When a slave merchant heard that the Deckards were to leave Missouri they immediately wanted to buy the good looking young woman. One of them offered as much as \$1200 for her. But Mr. and Mrs. Deckard would not sell her and they were indignant at the thought of such a thing.

5 "She is just like one of the family," they said. Thus it came about that Amanda was offered her freedom, so that she could stay in Missouri if she so desired. But she did not accept this offer of freedom. She said, "I will go where my people go."