


Between Mountains and Mothers:  
Letitia Carson's Life as a Black  
Homesteader and Midwife in  
Douglas County, Oregon



# Research Questions

What did this midwifery entail, and how was it connected to her Douglas County homestead and her relationship with neighbors?

Could we uncover more sources on her midwifery and caretaking work?



Painting of Letitia Carson by Jeremy Okai Davis

# Changes shaping Oregon Territory

1857

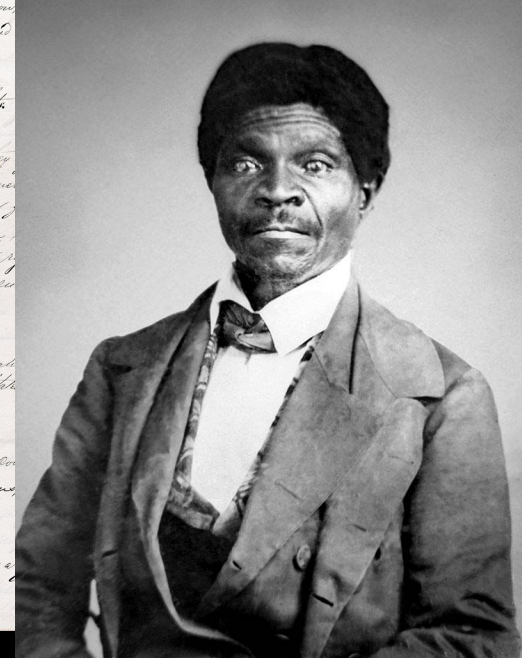
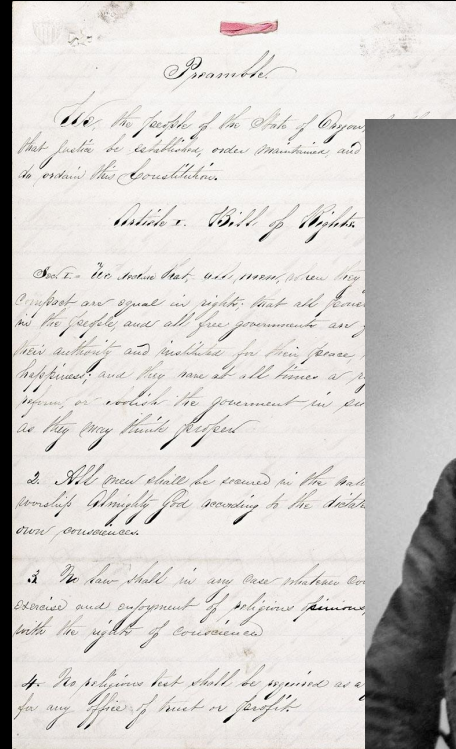
Dred Scott v Sandford  
Case

1857

Oregon State  
Constitution

1862

Federal Homestead  
Act



Oregon Constitution 1857, Dred Scott (Courtesy of BlackPast)

# South Myrtle Creek



Extensive Land  
Improvements



Neighbors testify, despite her  
ineligibility as a non-citizen

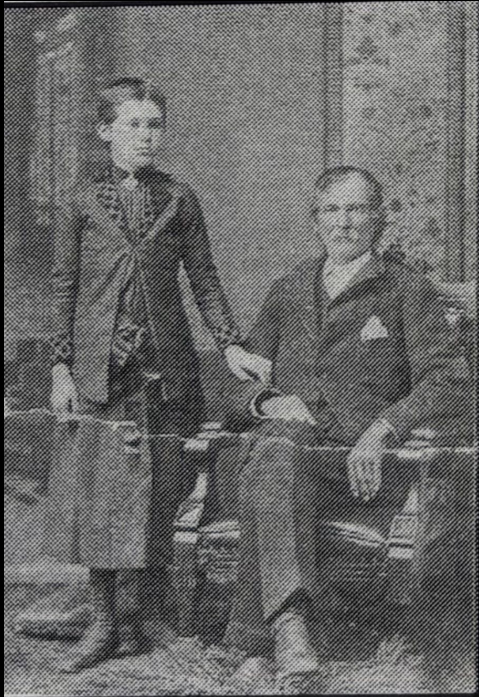


Homesteading  
Success



Photo of Letitia's Douglas County Land, by author

# Midwife + Caretaker



Moses Dyer and Daughter



Martha Carson and Children



# Conclusion

Homesteader

Midwife

Caretaker

