

Jasper McClure "Jap" Colvin¹, born 13-Feb-1853, (son of John Petrie Colvin² and Emma Pauline Crosby) died 18-Feb-1923.

“JASPER MCCLURE COLVIN Merchant Arcadia, La. Among the many industries in Arcadia that call for special notice, that of merchandising takes a prominent place The town contains several first-class establishments of this kind, and prominent among them is that conducted by Mr. Colvin, who is doing an excellent business, which is constantly on the increase. He is a native of South Carolina, born February 18, 1853, and was the second of eleven children born to John P. and Emma P. (Crosby) Colvin, both natives of the Palmetto State, the former born in 1826 and the latter in 1824. The children are named as follows in the order of their birth: Susan (deceased), Jasper McClure, Samuel, Della, John, Mina, Lulu, Cora, Ainsley, Beulah and Fitch. The father has followed agricultural pursuits all his life. He is still living and enjoys good health.



Jasper Colvin ca 1870

Jasper M. Colvin obtained his early educational training in the common schools of his State, but he has improved the are moments and has fitted himself in a praiseworthy manner for the practical life he is pursuing. At the age of twenty~one years he started it as a teacher, and after continuing this for one year he began merchandising as a salesman, in which capacity he remained for seven years. In 1882 he commenced business for himself at Arcadia, La., with a line of general merchandise, and by his enterprising and thoroughgoing manner he has established a lucrative trade. He started out life for himself with but limited means, but the elements to his success have been energy, honesty and perseverance.

He was married in January, 1882, to Miss Lulu Calvin, a native of Louisiana, born in 1866, and they have a family of four children; Willie (a Miss of seven years who is attending school), Mary Lee (died at the age of three years), Jasper (aged four), and Alice (who is two and a half years of age).

Mr. Colvin has affiliated with the Democratic party, and his aim has been to support men of principle and honor. He is a man who stands upon his word as his bond, as is shown by his progressive business in Arcadia. He was a member of the city council seven consecutive years, and is also a director in the Arcadia State Bank, of which the historian has already given a full report in the sketch of Hon. A. L. Aikins. It is seen that Mr. Colvin is associated with the direct interests of his people and home which are the cardinal points of a good citizen. Mr. and Mrs. Colvin are both members of the Missionary Baptist Church at Arcadia, La., and they are liberal contributors to the same.

Mr. Colvin is the owner of several farms in Bienville and Lincoln Parishes, and also residence property in Arcadia La. His general mercantile establishment in Arcadia, has an annual output of about \$30,000 especially in 1889. He commenced business in the old town of Arcadia with about \$1,800 but now ranks among the most enterprising and progressive merchants of that town, all the result of energy and good business management. His father was second lieutenant of the Twenty-eighth Louisiana Regiment in the late war.”³

Location of Jasper M. Colvin in the US census records.

| Dwelling # | Family # | Name of each person whose place of abode on June 1, 1880 was this family | Color | Sex | Age | Relation to head of family | Born this year | Occupation | Place of birth of this person | Place of birth of father | Place of birth of Mother |
|---|----------|--|-------|-----|-----|----------------------------|----------------|----------------|-------------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| 1880 - County: Lincoln State: LA Page#: 56 Super. Dist. #: 3 Enum. Dist. #: 41 Twp./city/street address: Ward 2 Date: 23& 24 June 1880 | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 487 | 487 | Colvin, Wm H. | | W | M | 70 | | Farmer | SC | | |
| | | Colvin, Mary | | W | F | 50 | Wife | Keeping house | LA | | |
| | | Colvin, Loula | | W | F | 13 | Dau. | house | LA | | |
| | | Colvin, William | | W | M | 10 | Son | At home | LA | | |
| | | Colvin, Jasper M. | | W | M | 27 | Nephew | Clerk in Store | SC | | |
| | | Aswell, Namoi | | W | F | 33 | Sis-in-law | At home | LA | | |
| | | Baker, M | | W | M | 25 | Hired hand | Farm laborer | LA | | |

| Dwelling # | Family # | Name of each person whose place of abode on June 1, 1880 was this family | Relation to head of family | Color | Sex | Month of birth | Year of birth | Age | # yrs. Married | # children born to mom | # living ch. | Place of birth of this person | Place of birth of father | Place of birth of mother | Occupation |
|---|----------|--|----------------------------|-------|-----|----------------|---------------|-----|----------------|------------------------|--------------|-------------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------|
| 1900 - County: Bienville State: LA Sheet: 24A Super. Dist: 4 Enum. Dist. 1 Township/City/St. Address: Arcadia, LA Date 27th June 1900 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 410 | 243 | Colvin, Jasper M. | Head | W | M | Feb | 1853 | 47 | 18 | | | SC | SC | SC | Truck Farmer |
| | | Colvin, Mary L. | Wife | W | F | Sep | 1866 | 33 | 18 | 9 | 6 | LA | SC | LA | |
| | | Colvin, Millie A. | Dau. | W | F | Oct | 1882 | 17 | | | | LA | SC | LA | |
| | | Colvin, Jasper M. | Son | W | M | Nov | 1887 | 12 | | | | LA | SC | LA | |
| | | Colvin, Allie I. | Dau. | W | F | Nov | 1890 | 10 | | | | LA | SC | LA | |
| | | Colvin, Ruth C. | Dau. | W | F | Oct | 1894 | 5 | | | | LA | SC | LA | |
| | | Colvin, Lula E. | Dau. | W | F | Jun | 1896 | 3 | | | | LA | SC | LA | |
| | | Colvin, Gladis S. | Dau. | W | F | Aug | 1898 | 1 | | | | LA | SC | LA | |
| | | Knight, Alice | Border | W | F | May | 1874 | 26 | | | | MS | MS | MS | |

1910 Census

County: Bienville State: LA Supervisor Dist: 6 Enumeration Dist: 1 Sheet: 2B
Township: Arcadia Precinct, Ward 1 Date: 16 April, 1910

| Name | Relationship | Sex | Race | Age | M | Yrs married | Born | F. Born | M. Born | Occupation |
|-----------------|--------------|-----|------|-----|----|-------------|------|---------|---------|------------------------|
| Colvin, J.M. | Head | M | W | 57 | M1 | 28 | SC | SC | SC | Agent – Life Insurance |
| Colvin, Mary | Wife | F | W | 43 | M1 | 28 | LA | SC | LA | |
| Colvin, Alice | Dau. | F | W | 21 | | | LA | SC | LA | |
| Colvin, Estelle | Dau. | F | W | 13 | | | LA | SC | LA | |
| Colvin, Gladys | Dau. | F | W | 11 | | | LA | SC | LA | |
| Colvin, Grace | Dau. | F | W | 7 | | | LA | SC | LA | |
| Colvin, Sheldon | Son | M | W | 2 | | | LA | SC | LA | |

The 1920 census below identifies Jasper M. Colvin Jr., he has living/visiting with him his mother, sister and brother. It is interesting to note that he is listed as divorced, and had the same occupation as his father in the 1910 census that of an Insurance agent.

1920 Census

County: **Ouachita** State: **LA** Supervisor Dist: **5** Enumeration Dist: **88** Sheet: **8A**
 Township: **Monroe city** Date: **12 Jan, 1920**

| Name | Relationship | S e x | Race | Age | M / D / W | Born | F. Born | M. Born | Occupation |
|--------------------|--------------|-------------|------|-----|-----------------------|------|---------|---------|------------------------|
| Colvin, Jasper M. | Head | M | W | 33 | D | LA | SC | LA | Agent – Life Insurance |
| Colvin, Mary L. | Dau. | F | W | 13 | S | LA | LA | MS | |
| Colvin, Jay D. | Son | M | W | 9 | S | LA | LA | MS | |
| Colvin, Jack | Son | M | W | 6 | S | LA | LA | MS | |
| Colvin, Grace D. | Sister | F | W | 16 | S | LA | SC | LA | |
| Colvin, Sheldon S. | Brother | M | W | 11 | S | LA | SC | LA | |
| Colvin, Mary L. | Mother | F | W | 53 | M | LA | SC | LA | |
| Knight, Alice L. | Roomer | F | W | 45 | S | MS | US | US | |

Jasper married Mary Louise 'Lulu' Colvin, born 6-Sep-1866 in Louisiana, (daughter of William Hardwick Colvin and Mary Mollie Aswell) died 21-Sep-1920. Jasper and Mary were first cousins, their fathers being brothers. Jasper was clerking in his uncle's, William, store during the time of the 1880 census. The couple was married on 12-Jan-1882, some 18 months after the 1880 census, Mary being 15 years of age.

Children:

1. Mary M Colvin , born 07-Jan-1884, died 23-Sep-1887.
2. Willie Colvin, died 19-Jun-1943. She married (1) Maxwell McConnell. She married (2) W T Green.
3. Jasper McClure Colvin Jr., He married (1) Mae E Dickens, married 28-Nov-1904. He married (2) Velma.
4. Alice Inez Colvin, born 29-Nov-1888. She married Henry Clay Gamble, married 05-Feb-1907, born 11-Nov-1886, died 15-Feb-1958.
5. John Earl Colvin.
6. Ruth Cleveland Colvin, born 19-Nov-1892. She married Hilliard M Huckabay, married 16-May-1909, born 14-Apr-1888, died 23-Oct-1929.
7. Estelle Colvin, born 27-Jun-1895. She married Joe Crawford, married 25-Aug-1918, born 19-Nov-1884.
8. Gladys Colvin. She married Phillip F Kihneman, married 24-Mar-1918.

9. Della Grace Colvin. She married Earl Losh Henry, married 10-Mar-1921, born 1898, died 31-Jul-1962.
10. Spencer Sheldon Colvin, born 27-Jan-1908, died 20-Mar-1957.

¹ Photo courtesy of Rob Perry, robertperry@gmail.com.

² Colvin and Allied Families, by Baker Colvin, @1965, page 195-197, 1508 Risinger Rd, Spearsville, LA 71277

³ Bienville Parish La Source: Biographical and Historical Memoirs of Northwest Louisiana The Southern Publishing Company, Chicago & Nashville, 1890.