Lipscomb Norvell was born in September 1756 in Hanover County, Virginia, son of John & Elizabeth Lipscomb Norvell. At age 20, he enlisted to fight and in June 1777, he was enrolled as a Cadet in Captain William Mosby’s company of the 5th Virginia Regiment. On January 15, 1778, he was appointed regimental paymaster. He fought in the Battles of Brandywine, Trenton and Monmouth and later in the south during the siege of Charleston. In February 1780 he was promoted to First Lieutenant. Taken prisoner by the British in Charleston, South Carolina, on May 12, 1780, he remained in British custody until the end of the war. Lt. Norvell was an original member of the Virginia Society of the Cincinnati, founded in 1783 by officers of the Continental Army.

In 1783 Lt. Norvell married Mary (Molly) Hendrick, born in 1763, the daughter of John D. Hendrick. About 1787 the family moved to Kentucky where they were early settlers on the Virginia-Kentucky border. Mary died about 1820. Norvell was living in Nashville by 1828 to be near his children. He lived in the home of his daughter Mary and her husband James Walker.

Lipscomb Norvell died, at age 87 years, on March 2, 1843. His obituary announced that his funeral would be held at the residence of James Walker on Cherry Street (now 4th Avenue North). A member of the Baptist Church for 50 years, his funeral was preached by Rev. R.B.C. Howell, prominent Baptist preacher.

Five of Lipscomb Norvell’s children were buried at City Cemetery: Moses (1786-1853), Joseph (1793-1847), Mary N. Walker (1802-1852), Hendrick (1808-1837) and Martha (1810-1830).

Sources
Tombstone Inscriptions for Lipscomb Norvell & his children. City Cemetery website
Family History prepared by descendant John Norvell. City Cemetery website
Kentucky Early Census Index.1789, Mercer County. Lipscomb Norvell. On-line
Davidson County, TN. Will. Recorded March 9, 1843. Lipscomb Norvell. On-line

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