Anne Eliza Mouton (above), daughter of Governor Alexandre Mouton and Emma K. Gardiner, was a graduate of Manhattanville College of the Sacred Heart in New York. She was gifted in music and poetry; as a young woman, she gave all her earthly goods to charity, adopted the costume she is shown wearing, and devoted her life to the service of the church. For 40 years she was sacristan and organist at St. John’s Cathedral. The epitaph on her grave reads: “Anne Eliza Mouton, born 1824—died January 1, 1910, after a most beautiful life in the House of God. She hath loved the beauty of Thy House, O Lord, and the place where Thy glory dwelleth.” Of her, Monsignor William J. Teurlings had inscribed in Latin: “On the second day of January, 1910, I have performed the solemn funeral services of Anne Eliza Mouton, 86 years of age, who for 40 years served this church most piously and most faithfully, diligently taking care of the sanctuary, playing the organ, directing the choir, leading a most beautiful life in the House of God, adorned with virtues, finally full of merit in the love of the Savior, yesterday shedding her earthly remains was admitted into the angelic choir.”

(Photo courtesy of Mrs. Charles E. Hamilton)