

Cabinet

by stephen hastings-king

In the afternoon I plead guilty to the abreption of the inspection car,
then to admiring flowers pedicellate; the calyx obsolete, the cup
acetabuliform, five-angled, five-toothed and somewhat compressed,
boat-shaped.

At night I observe with a telescope fitted with horizontal wires the
rising and setting of stars, arriving at faultless truths about their
theoretical axis of rotation by floating the whole in a mercury bath.

In the morning I listen through an ear-trumpet in the form of a
natural ear to lists of obsolete names--epidote, oisanite, puschkinite,
achmatite, beustite, escherite--a drowsy maid with the sleep scarce
brushed out of her hair.

