I talking afterwards I do not think any of us would have tackled it if Graham had not gone out so unconcernedly to the middle to fix a rope which might ~~have~~ help us. I know I disliked the look of it intensely || ELIE DE BEAUMONT

two cables together ~~where~~ and where for a few inches one could not slide over hand along the suspension cable it was better & we gradually got upright again. Our troubles were now over & we got a comfortable camp on little beach on the other side. Our idea had been an attempt on Mt Elie de Beaumont which had never been climbed from the west. Many a time thirty years before I had looked at it carefully from the beach or the inland track & thought I could ~~that~~ see where a route lay up it. However ~~that evening at supper~~ next morning at breakfast I broke a molar & the nerve was trapped. I did not say anything at first & then tried to persuade the others to go on. ~~After the night~~ I knew I could not go on as we should certainly two more nights out before getting to the foot of the climb. I wanted to go back alone & leave them with the food that we had got in. However they decided to come out leaving all food that would keep for another trip or another party. As a matter of fact on the third day bad weather came in for three or four days & I did not feel quite so guilty about ~~in~~ spoiling the trip. We recrossed the bridge & set off home & got along well that day & by ~~next day~~ midday next day had crossed a lower bridge & had lunch & a spell on a little sandy beach. I was amused to see the truth of the old saying "once a digger always a digger". No sooner was the ~~meal~~ meal over then they were all off with plates or billy ~~tins~~ lids "panning" for gold behind any big ~~stones~~ stone where gold might have been left. They all got specks of gold