



**54a.** Clipping into two anchors with clove hitches back to the harness.

If both anchors are a long way from the stance, take the rope and clip it into the first anchor. Then run it through a screwgate karabiner on the central loop and from there take it through the second anchor-point karabiner. You now have a sort of M-shape of ropes, which act like a pulley system. Use the friction generated to lower yourself back down to the stance, whereupon you can secure the rope that runs through the central loop karabiner and the rope that ultimately goes to your partner. It may, of course, happen that the second anchor point is within arm's reach. In this case you can tie into it directly with a clove hitch or figure-of-eight knot (Photo 54b).



**54b.** Clipping directly to a second anchor with a clove hitch. Use this method only if you can easily reach the second anchor.

A word or two here about the use of screwgate karabiners on anchors. Whenever you attach a rope to your harness or central loop you should use a screwgate karabiner. You should also use one for your main anchor attachment. Any secondary anchors could be connected with a snaplink provided that you are absolutely certain that it is safe to do so. Climbers tend not to carry enormous numbers of screwgate karabiners, so if you do find yourself requiring the reassurance of a screwgate and you don't have one to hand, rig up two snaplinks back to back or gates opposite (see Photos 29a and 29b page 46).