

Five Italian Miners Killed By an Avalanche.

BIG RAILROADS ARE BLOCKED

DRIFTS THIRTY FEET DEEP
AND TEN TIMES AS WIDE—
WILL TAKE A FORTNIGHT TO
DIG THROUGH THEM.

Silverton, Col., Jan. 23.—Five Italian miners employed at the Sunnyside mine lost their lives in an immense snow slide late yesterday afternoon. No particulars of the names of the men can be obtained as the telephone blacksmith shop and several tram cars are also known to have been swept away.

No trains from Durango or Denver have arrived here since last Wednesday, due to slides and immense drifts of snow which have blocked the tracks.

All the short roads running to outlying camps are now snowed in. There are eleven slides between Silverton and Eik Park. The slides average from seven to thirty feet deep and from 50 to 450 feet wide. One immense slide went into the Animas river, forming a dam of snow and ice, which caused the stream to back up and overflow the Rio Grande tracks to a depth of four feet.

It will be two weeks before traffic can be resumed between Silverton and Durango.