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Haskell Institute was founded to meet a great need.

For twenty-five years the white settlers had battled their way against the Indians

Only ~~two~~ years before had occurred the last raid of hostile Indians in Kansas, with its toll of forty-five settlers killed. This I well remember because they passed within twenty miles of where I lived.

There were some, however, who dissented from the old idea that the only good Indian was a dead Indian.

Some believed that the Indian was a human being, with a soul precious to his Maker and with mind and talents worth cultivating

Dudley C. Haskell, of Lawrence, congressman from the Second district, a Vermonter by birth, believed in the future of the Indian and because of that belief, put through congress in 1882 an appropriation