

Tel: 1 den 22.

Thursdale -

1 den -

Rye.
Sussex

Paint-box sent
o some chocolates.

Oct 1930

My dearest Aunt:

I expect Mother will have told you about my marriage with Gabriel Aitken. We are settled here for the winter while we decide about our future plans, exceedingly happy, & taking our work very seriously. So at last my life has found the way which you could approve. The disastrous news about my Mother's investments you will have heard also - Comment fails me. For my silence of the last twelve months I must ask for your understanding forgiveness - and as faith, & when we meet I will try to explain. But Gabriel & I were to have been married last January, something prevented it which caused me such unhappiness that when I came to England last May

to stay at Buckingham Gate I fell really
ill for some months. In fact it is only
since we have come to live here, & I've
been able to sleep & live out of doors, that
I've realised how far my health had gone
completely, & how, little by little, it is
coming back. (Now, as you can imagine,
were things easy in London, though Mother
nursed me admirably.) So that is why I
kept quiet, having to hold on as best I could.
But never for an hour were you & Paddy
out of my thoughts. And she will find
in Gabriel a man who loves children &
understands them, a musician & painter who
will help her, who loves her already, in
whom we can both have absolute trust.
We shall be here till April or May.

This house is very lucky in wild country on
Romney Marsh, & there are no other children
anywhere near. Even the village is some