Peppernuts (Pfeffernüsse)

1/2 cup almonds blanched 4 cups flour sifted

2 teaspoons cinnamon 1/2 teaspoon nutmeg

1/2 teaspoon allspice 1/2 teaspoon cloves 1/4 teaspoon mace 1/4 teaspoon salt 1/4 teaspoon pepper

3 oz candied citron

4 eggs 2 cups sugar

2 1/4 teaspoon brandy

Grease Cookie sheets. Grate 1/2 cup (2 1/2 oz) blanched almonds. Sift together into a bowl the flour, cinnamon, nutmeg, allspice, cloves, mace, salt & pepper. Stir in the almonds and set aside. Chop and set aside the 3 oz. candied citron. Beat until thick and piled softly 4 eggs. Add gradually, beating thoroughly after each addition 2 cups of sugar. Add the flour-almond mixture into fourths, blending thoroughly after each addition. Mix in the citron. Turn about on half the dough onto a lightly floured surface and roll 1/2" thick. Cut with a lightly floured 1" round cookie cutter. Transfer to cookie sheets. Put a drop of brandy on the center of each cookie. Bake at 350°F for 15 to 20 minutes or until cookies are lightly browned.

Remove to cooling racks, cool & store.