



Third century A.D. silver ring POA

Ca 250 A. D. silver ring with letters in capital engraved on the outside. the letters are "O T V M E R C V I R V" There is no way to guess where the word begins or ends so unless one knows the meaning it is rather difficult to know or translate.

Width : 9.5 mm

Ring size "L" = US 5+3/4

I have just received a note from a friend Ittai Gradel explaining the ring

It must in fact be Roman, and is a votive ring to Hercules, to be read:

Votum (H)ercul(i) R(?) – i. e. 'Votive gift to Hercules R(?)' – the final R presumably abbreviation of a place name of a particular Hercules cult. The missing H is no problem, as H was silent in later Latin (as in modern Romance languages – Italian, French etc ... If you check you will probably find that the letter you transcribe as I is more likely an L (I cannot see it in the photos).