Tommaso M. Lucchelli. “Osservazioni Sull’interscambio Monetario Romano-Partico”

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Tommaso M. Lucchelli. "Osservazioni Sull'interscambio Monetario Romano-Partico" in M. Bellomo (ed.). Studi di storiografia e storia antica. Omaggio a Pier Giuseppe Michelotto. Roma: Arbor Sapientiae, 2018, p. 149-157

- 1 For the first time, a serious attempt to analyse the monetary exchange between Roman and Parthian territories is undertaken. The author collects the evidence concerning Arsacid coins found in the Roman territory both in the Eastern and in the Western provinces. Apart from a couple of hoards found in the province of Syria, most of the findings concern isolated coins. Also in the regions closer to Parthia, the overall quantity of Parthian coins found in the Roman territory is extremely scarce concerning the overall monetary findings. Also in the Parthian territory close to the Roman border, the presence of Roman specimens is scarce. Findings from Seleucia on the Tigris, Hatra, Assur and Susa are discussed. Only at Ninive in northern Mesopotamia, two hords of more than 200 Roman denarii have been found. The author concludes that there was no circulation of Parthian coins in the Roman Empire perhaps because of the lesser quality of the Arsacid silver issues. For the same reason, the Roman *denarii* were considered by those living within the Parthian empire as pieces of good precious metal and were used to buy goods in the west, to produce Arsacid coins or were simply put aside and used as silver. This is why the findings are scarce in comparison with those from India or European Barbaricum.

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