



Three Bear's Heads

The armorial bearings of the ancient Scots families of Nisbet, Gordon, Swinton, Redpath and Dunse all carry three Bear's heads. These families all occupied contiguous baronies in the shire of Berwick in the Scottish Borders and it is thought, but not proven, that they might share a common ancestor. We do know that each of them were active in Scottish affairs and that their names are found as witnesses to charters of the Scottish Kings, Edgar, Alexander and David, sons of Malcolm Canmore.

Paraphrased from Alexander Nisbet's *A System of Heraldry*, 1722