My invention relates to shingles or tiles for roofs.

In accordance with my invention I provide a shingle or tile preferably formed of baked clay, although composition, metal, or any suitable material may be used. The shingle or tile is so constructed, that after the base or lowermost row of shingles is laid, the upper shingles may be laid in lapping relation, and the upper end portion of all of the shingles will lie flat upon the roof. The edges of the shingle or tiles are provided with rabbet joints, and these joints will properly interfit, regardless of the relative position of the shingles or tiles in one row with relation to the shingles or tiles in the adjacent row. The shingles or tiles will lie close together, when lapped, and provide a water-tight roof.

In the accompanying drawings, forming a part of this specification, and in which like numerals are employed to designate like parts throughout the same,

Figure 1 is a perspective view of a plurality of shingles or tiles embodying my invention, the same being arranged in lapped relation.

Figure 2 is a longitudinal section through upper and lower assembled shingles.

Figure 3 is a plan view of one of the shingles or tiles.

Figure 4 is a bottom plan view of the same.

Figure 5 is a transverse section taken on line 5—5 of Figure 3.

Figure 6 is a similar view taken on line 6—6 of Figure 3, and

Figure 7 is a similar view taken on line 7—7 of Figure 3.

Each shingle or tile embodies a plurality of raised portions or ribs 10, which are preferably inverted V-shaped in cross section. These raised portions or ribs have connection with depressed portions or bottoms 11. One outer bottom 11 carries a wall or web 12 and the other outer bottom 11 carries a wall or web 13. The web 12 is provided with an upper groove 14, forming a lower rabbet 15 and the web 13 has an upper rabbet 16 provided with a lower groove 17. The rabbet 16 of one shingle or tile is adapted for insertion within the groove 14 of the other shingle or tile, as clearly shown in Figure 1.

The raised portions or ribs 10 taper horizontally along lines 18 toward their top ends and also taper vertically along lines 19 toward their top ends. The co-acting webs 12 and 13 of adjacent shingles produce a rib 10°, having the same horizontal and vertical tapers and these webs are tapered horizontally and vertically as shown. The depressions or bottoms 11, have their upper surfaces longitudinally tapered and gradually increasing in width toward the top of the shingle or tile. These depressions or bottoms, have their lower faces, at their tops, longitudinally beveled or inclined, with respect to the remaining lower portions, forming an inclined face 20, which extends from a point 20 to a point 21. This face 20° is of a substantial length.

In laying the shingles or tiles, the lowermost row is first laid, and the beveled faces 20° contact with the roof, thereby elevating the butt end of the shingles or tiles and a strip or pearl, such as a % inch strip is placed beneath the butt ends of the shingle or tile. When the next row is laid, the butt ends of the shingles or tiles lap the tops of the lower shingles or tiles, which holds these butt ends spaced from the roof, whereby the beveled faces 20° contact with the roof. In this manner, the shingles or tiles are in secure engagement with the roof, and have a close interlocking engagement. They are secured to the roof in any well known or preferred manner.

It is to be understood that the form of my invention, herewith shown and described, is to be taken as a preferred example of the same, and that various changes in the shape, size and arrangement of parts may be resorted to without departing from the spirit of my invention, or the scope of the subjoined claims.

Having thus described my invention, I claim:

1. A shingle or tile including a plurality of upstanding hollow ribs, and bottoms connecting these ribs at their bases, the bottoms being longitudinally tapered and increasing in width upwardly and the hollow ribs being longitudinally tapered and decreasing in width upwardly, said bottoms being longitudinally beveled at their tops forming longitudinal inclined faces which extend upwardly toward the top of the shingle or tile.

2. A shingle or tile including a plurality of upstanding hollow ribs which taper horizontally and vertically toward their tops, and bottoms connecting these ribs at their
bases, said bottoms being longitudinally tapered and increasing in width toward their tops, said bottoms being provided at their top ends with longitudinally inclined faces which extend upwardly toward their tops.

3. A shingle or tile including a plurality of standing hollow inverted V-shaped ribs which taper horizontally and vertically toward their tops, and flat bottoms connecting these ribs at their bases, said bottoms being tapered horizontally toward their tops, the bottoms and ribs being of the same length, said bottoms being provided at their top ends with vertically inclined lower faces which extend upwardly toward their tops, 15 the lower larger ends of the ribs of one shingle being adapted for insertion upon the upper smaller ends of the ribs of a lower companion shingle and to have wedging action therewith upon relative longitudinal movement, the bottom inclined faces tilting the upper shingle so that it will properly co-act with the lower companion shingle.

In testimony whereof I affix my signature.

BENJAMIN F. WHITESIDE.