`Helium` is a Fast, Secure and Reliable Newsletter System. `Helium` is perfect for weekly articles newsletter, featured articles newsletter, marketing campaigns or even product updates. It integrates easily with most of SMTP providers out there. It is built with Symfony 5.4 LTS to support a broad range of PHP versions plus symfony extended support.

Some Features

- Automated Setup.
- Statistics dashboard with trends in subscribers and newsletters.
- Fast email delivery. you can run any number of workers for massive numbers of subscribers and newsletters.
- Scheduled newsletters support.
- Customizable newsletter page.
- Customizable newsletter emails.
- Powerful templating engine for newsletter emails.
- Powerful templating engine for newsletter page.
- Search engine optimized.
- Integrates easily with any SMTP services like `Postfix`, `Gmail`, `SendGrid`, `Sendinblue`, `Postmark`, `Mailgun`, `Mailchimp`, `Amazon SES`, `Mailtrap`.
- Automated deployment and upgrades with Ansible.
- Translation Ready.
- Fully Ajax.
- Developer Friendly.
- Well documented code.
- Amazing Support.

Free Hosting

You can get at least 3 months of a free hosting to run `Helium`. Please feel free to use one of the following links to register:

- $200 from Digitalocean.
- $250 from Vultr.
- $300 from Google Cloud.
- 12 Month free from AWS.
- $100 from Linode.

Requirements

- Linux Operating System.
- Apache or Nginx with PHP-FPM
- PHP 7.4+.
- MySQL 5+ or MariaDB.
- Composer.

We suggest using a `Virtual Server` *(VPS) not shared hosting since* `Helium` *requires a two running background process to send emails on time. You can get a free VPS for at least three months, Please check free hosting section*

Manual Installation

1. Please follow this guide to install ubuntu 22.02 with Nginx, MySQL, PHP-FPM

2. if you deployed helium to this path `/var/www/project/` you need to create two systemd services.

3. The `watcher` systemd service.

```
$ nano /etc/systemd/system/watcher.service
```

```
[Unit]
Description=Helium Watcher
After=network.target

StartLimitIntervalSec=500
StartLimitBurst=5

[Service]
User=root
Group=www-data
WorkingDirectory=/var/www/project
Restart=on-failure
RestartSec=5s
Environment=LANG=en_US.UTF-8
Environment=LC_ALL=en_US.UTF-8
Environment=LC_LANG=en_US.UTF-8
ExecStart=php /var/www/project/bin/console watch
ExecReload=/bin/kill -s HUP $MAINPID
ExecStop=/bin/kill -s TERM $MAINPID
PrivateTmp=true

[Install]
WantedBy=multi-user.target
```

4. The `worker` systemd service.

```
$ nano /etc/systemd/system/worker.service
```

```
[Unit]
Description=Helium Worker %i
After=network.target

StartLimitIntervalSec=500
StartLimitBurst=5

[Service]
User=root
Group=www-data
WorkingDirectory=/var/www/project
Restart=on-failure
RestartSec=5s
Environment=LANG=en_US.UTF-8
Environment=LC_ALL=en_US.UTF-8
Environment=LC_LANG=en_US.UTF-8
ExecStart=php /var/www/project/bin/console messenger:consume async
ExecReload=/bin/kill -s HUP $MAINPID
ExecStop=/bin/kill -s TERM $MAINPID
PrivateTmp=true

[Install]
WantedBy=multi-user.target
```

5. Then enable and start them

```
$ systemctl enable watcher
$ systemctl start watcher

$ systemctl enable worker@1
$ systemctl start worker@1
```

Installation with Ansible (preferred)

You need to install `Python 3` locally and use a laptop that has `SSH` access to the production `Linux` server. Then please follow these steps:

1. Create a python virtual environment.

```
$ python3 -m venv venv
$ source venv/bin/activate
```

2. Install `ansible`

```
$ make config
```

3. Create `hosts.prod` from `hosts` file and replace `127.0.0.1` with the host IP.

4. Create `prod.vault.yml` with these configs.

```
$ ansible-vault create prod.vault.yml
```

```
install_mysql: true
root_username: root
root_password: R2ZBmTR6nED6a71AxeTO2DSck
app_db_name: helium
app_db_username: admin
app_db_password: R2ZBmTR6nED6a71AxeTO2UIok
allow_access_from: "127.0.0.1"

install_nginx: true

install_php: true

install_composer: true

install_postfix: false
postfix_hostname: helium
smtp_sasl_security_options: noanonymous
smtp_sasl_auth_enable: 'yes'
smtp_use_tls: 'yes'
smtp_server: smtp.gmail.com
smtp_port: 587
smtp_username: ''
smtp_password: ''
inet_interfaces: 127.0.0.1
```

`Postfix` is disabled but it can be enabled by setting `install_postfix: true` above and providing the SMTP Server, username and password. You can use your gmail account as an SMTP server by doing the following:

- The `SMTP server` will be `smtp.gmail.com` and port `587`
- The `SMTP username` is your gmail email address.
- The `SMTP password` can be generated after enabling two factor authentication. Please check this guide to generate the app password https://www.golinuxcloud.com/gmail-smtp-relay-server-postfix/.

5. Run ansible playbook to setup the server

```
$ make prod
```

Here is an article explaining the above steps in more details

To Deploy Helium Application:

The following steps will require you to upload the code to a private github or gitlab repository, Add the host public key as a deploy key Then provide the repository git link.

1. Create `helium.vault.yml` with these configs.

```
$ ansible-vault create helium.vault.yml
```

```
app_user: appmgmt
app_group: appmgmt

app_version: 1.0.0
git_repo: git@github.com:$AUTHOR/$REPO.git


workers_counts: 1

hostname: helium.com

php_version: 8.1

app_db_name: helium
app_db_username: admin
app_db_password: R2ZBmTR6nED6a71AxeTO2UIok

app_secret: 3999bf7e3a408f15942779447e01dd7a
app_timezone: UTC
app_env: prod
app_locale: en
messenger_transport: doctrine://default
mailer_dsn: sendmail://default
```

Please not that `mailer_dsn` can be one of the following forms:

```
# If Amazon Mailer
mailer_dsn: ses://ACCESS_KEY:SECRET_KEY@default?region=eu-west-1
mailer_dsn: ses+smtp://ACCESS_KEY:SECRET_KEY@default?region=eu-west-1

# If Mailchimp
mailer_dsn: mandrill://KEY@default
mailer_dsn: mandrill+smtp://USERNAME:PASSWORD@default

# If mailgun
mailer_dsn: mailgun://KEY:DOMAIN@default?region=us
mailer_dsn: mailgun+smtp://USERNAME:PASSWORD@default?region=us

# If Mailjet
mailer_dsn: mailjet+api://PUBLIC_KEY:PRIVATE_KEY@api.mailjet.com
mailer_dsn: mailjet+smtp://PUBLIC_KEY:PRIVATE_KEY@in-v3.mailjet.com

# If Postmark
mailer_dsn: postmark://ID@default

# If Sendgrid
mailer_dsn: sendgrid://KEY@default

# If Sendinblue
mailer_dsn: sendinblue+api://KEY@default
mailer_dsn: sendinblue+smtp://USERNAME:PASSWORD@default

# If Mailtrap
mailer_dsn: smtp://USERNAME:PASSWORD@smtp.mailtrap.io:2525?
encryption=tls&auth_mode=login
```
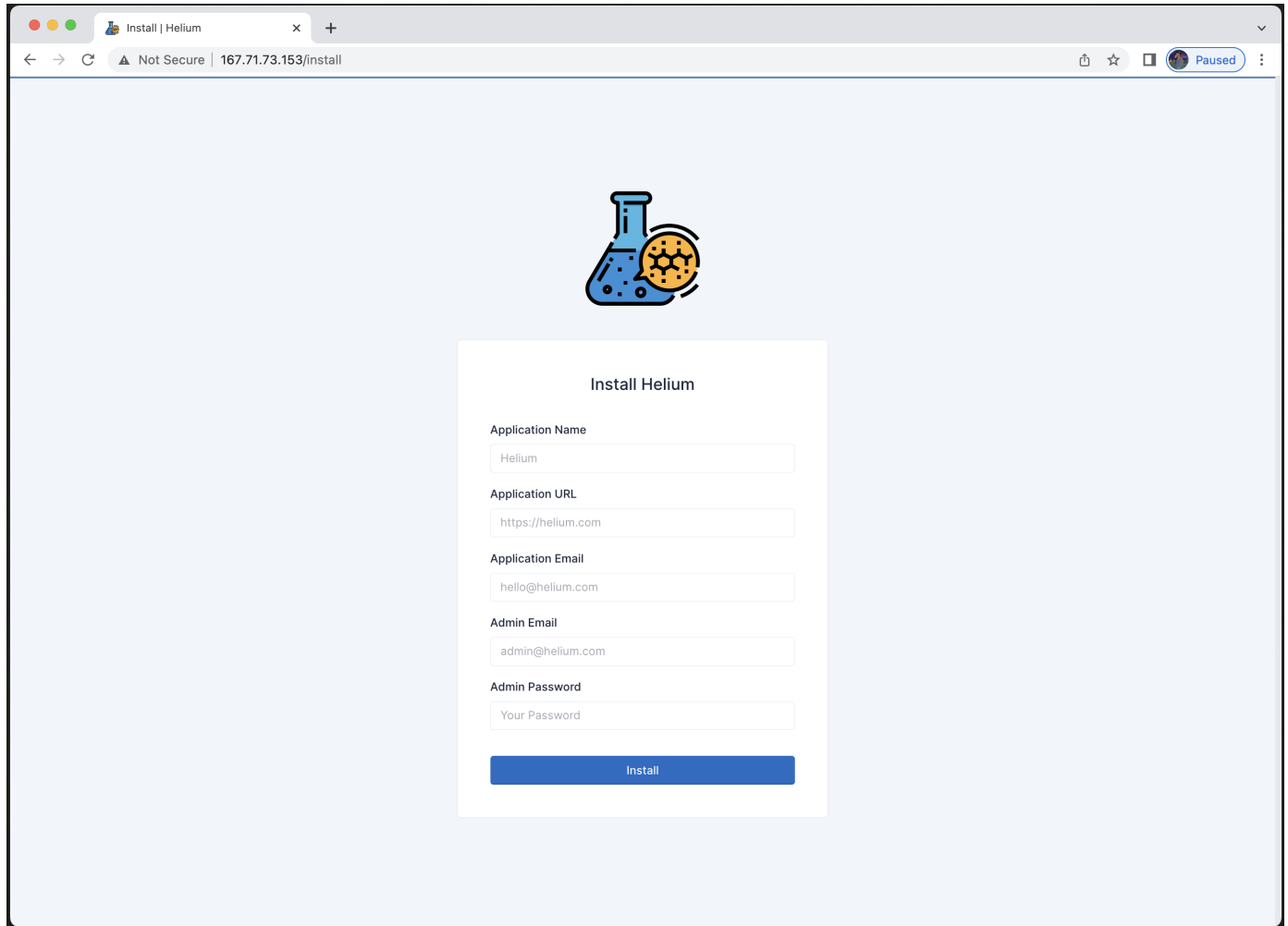
2. Run ansible playbook to deploy `Helium` application.

```
$ make helium
```

Configuration

Once you have installed `Helium` on a server. Please follow the following steps setup the application and also send your first newsletter:
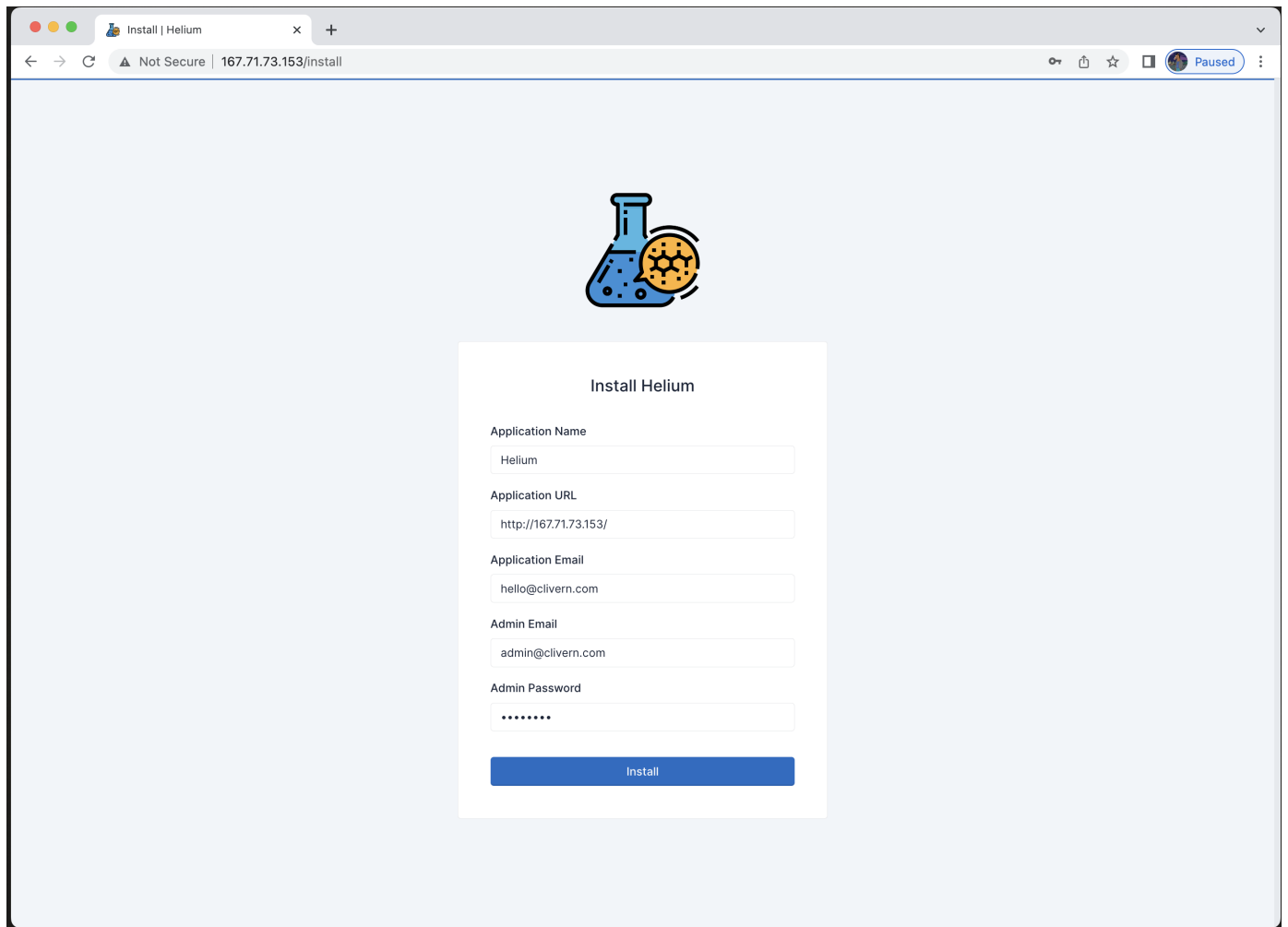
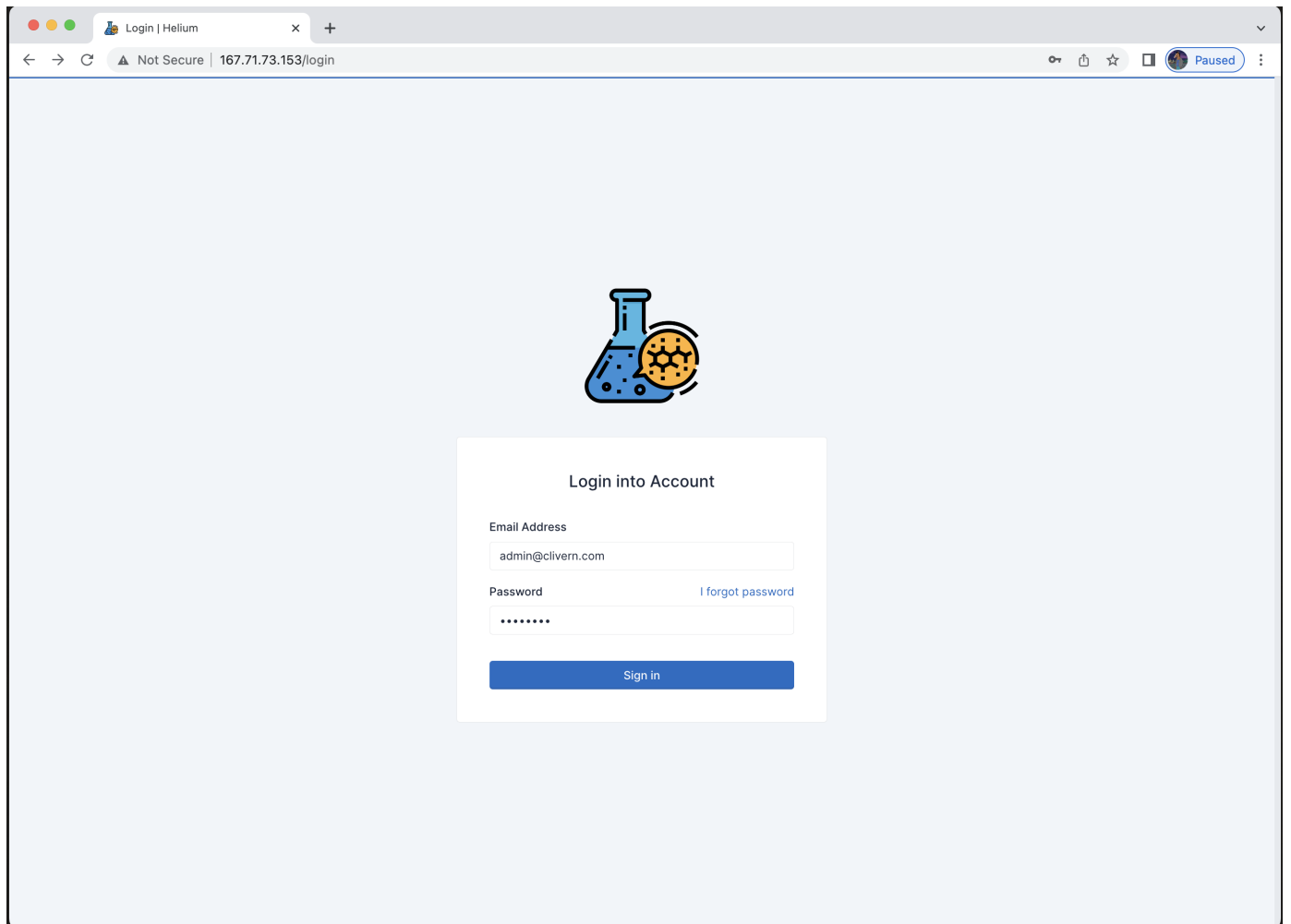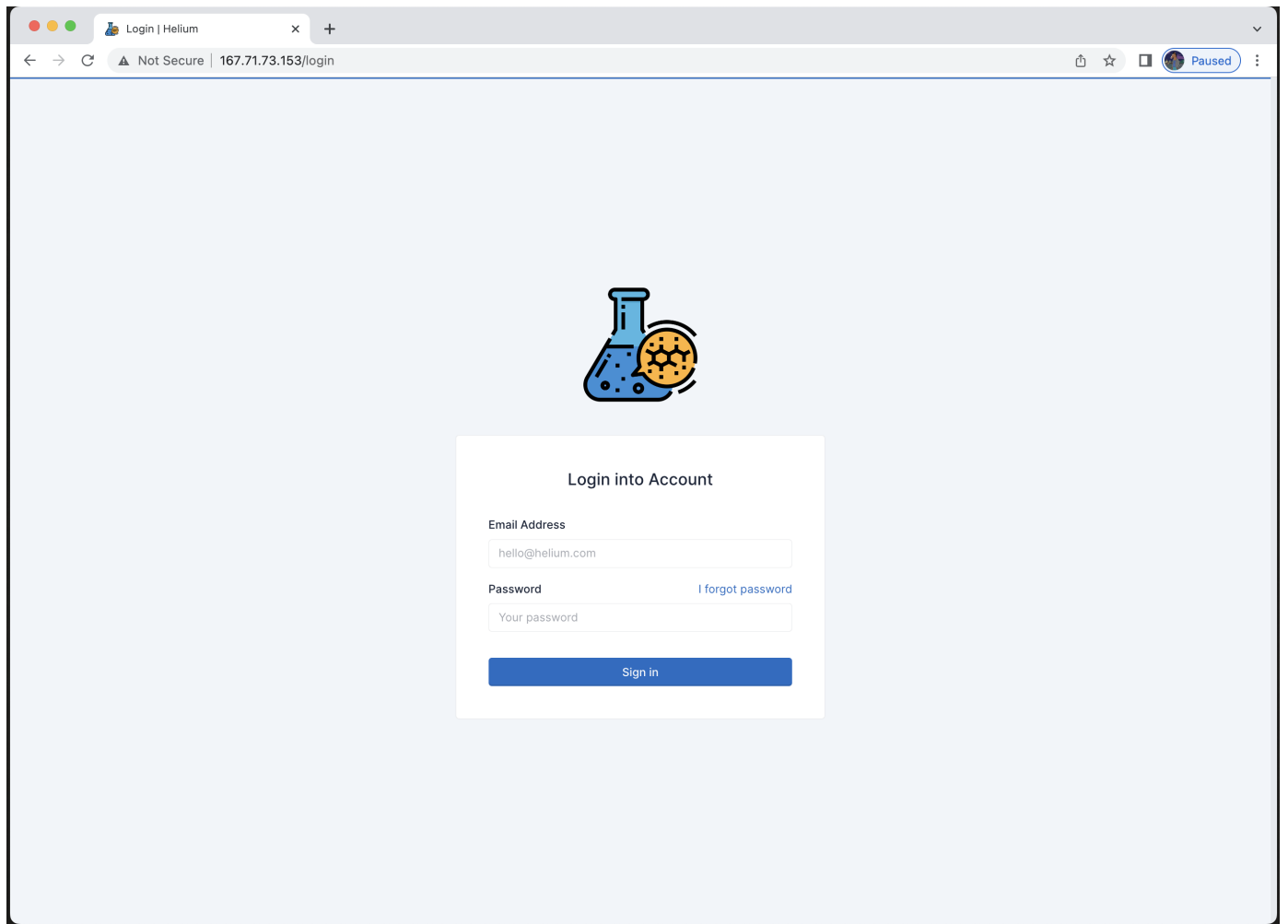- Visit `Helium` URL and it will redirect to `/install` page. You will need to provide the application and admin data.
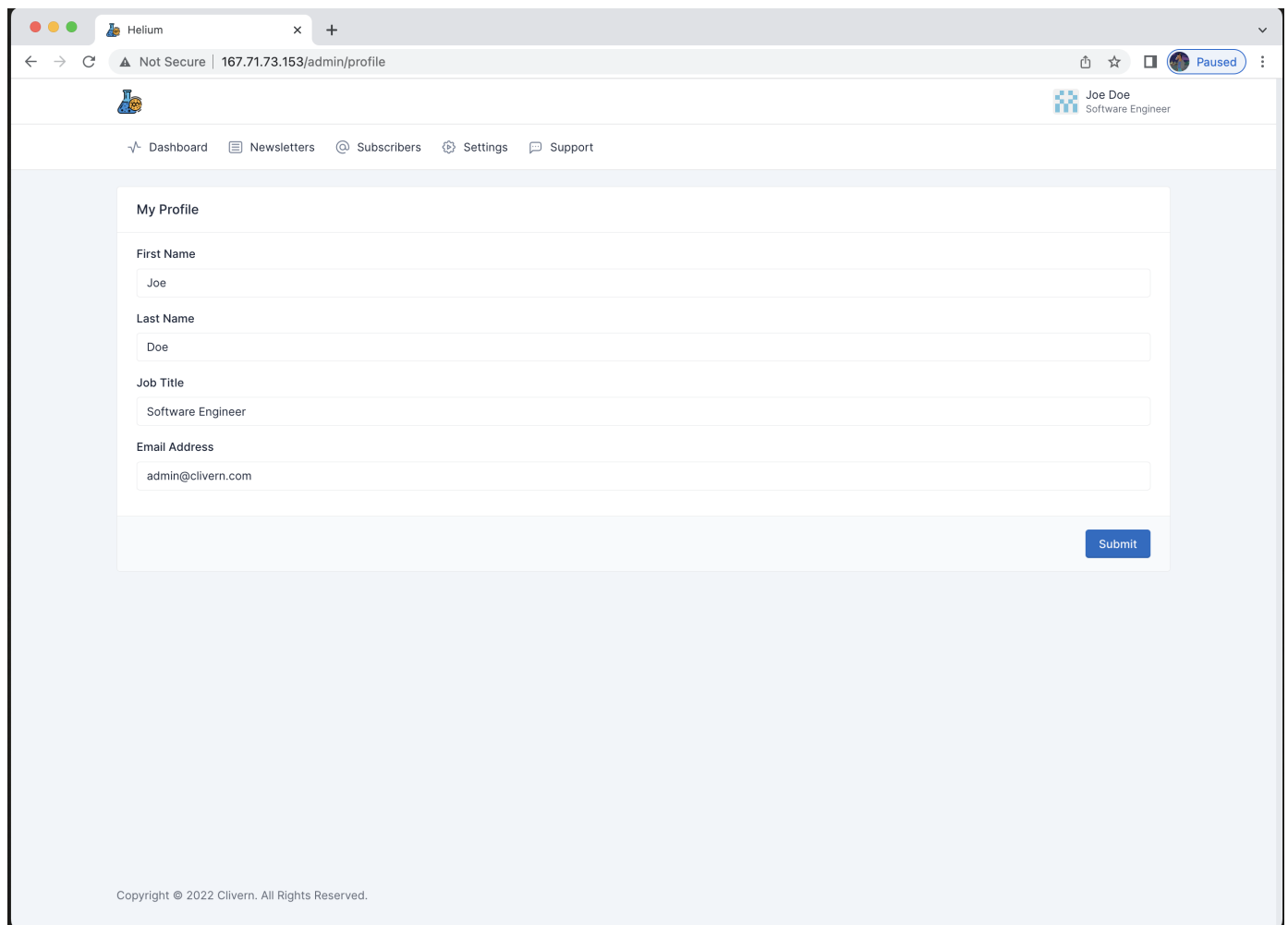
- Then you can login with the `Admin Email` and `Admin Password`.

Login into Account

Email Address

hello@helium.com

Password   I forgot password

Your password

Sign in

Login into Account

Email Address

admin@clivern.com

Password   I forgot password

••••••••

Sign in

- It is optional to update your profile. Inserting your first and last name.

- It is optional to update the settings.

- Then we need to add our first subscriber. Please use your personal email. You can either subscribe from the homepage like other users or insert the email manually from the dashhboard.

SUBSCRIBE TODAY

Never miss a news

Your email address

Subscribe

We won't send you spam. Unsubscribe at any time.
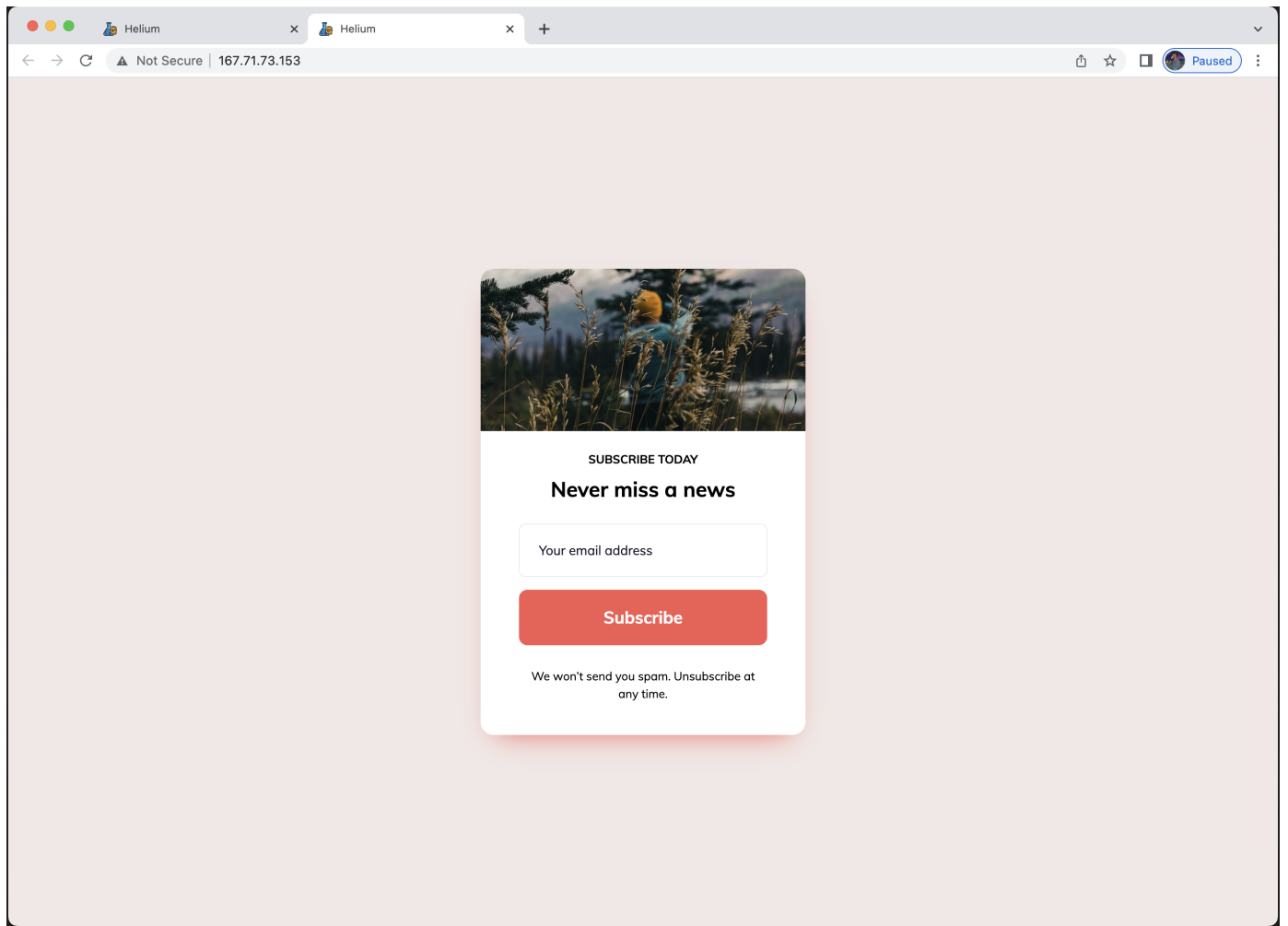
Verify Email - Helium External ∑ Inbox ×

C   to me ▾   5:51 PM (0 minutes ago) ☆ ↩ ⋮

Hey there,

Please click the following link to verify your email:

Verify Email

If you didn't subscribe then you can safely ignore this email!

Thanks,
Helium Team.

Sent with ♡ from Helium.

↩ Reply   → Forward

Email verified successfully!

We won't send you spam. Unsubscribe at any time.

Joe Doe
Software Engineer

Dashboard　　Newsletters　　Subscribers　　Settings　　Support

Subscribers

Add New

EMAIL	STATUS	CREATED AT	UPDATED AT
		No Records Found!	

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167.71.73.153/admin/subscriber/add
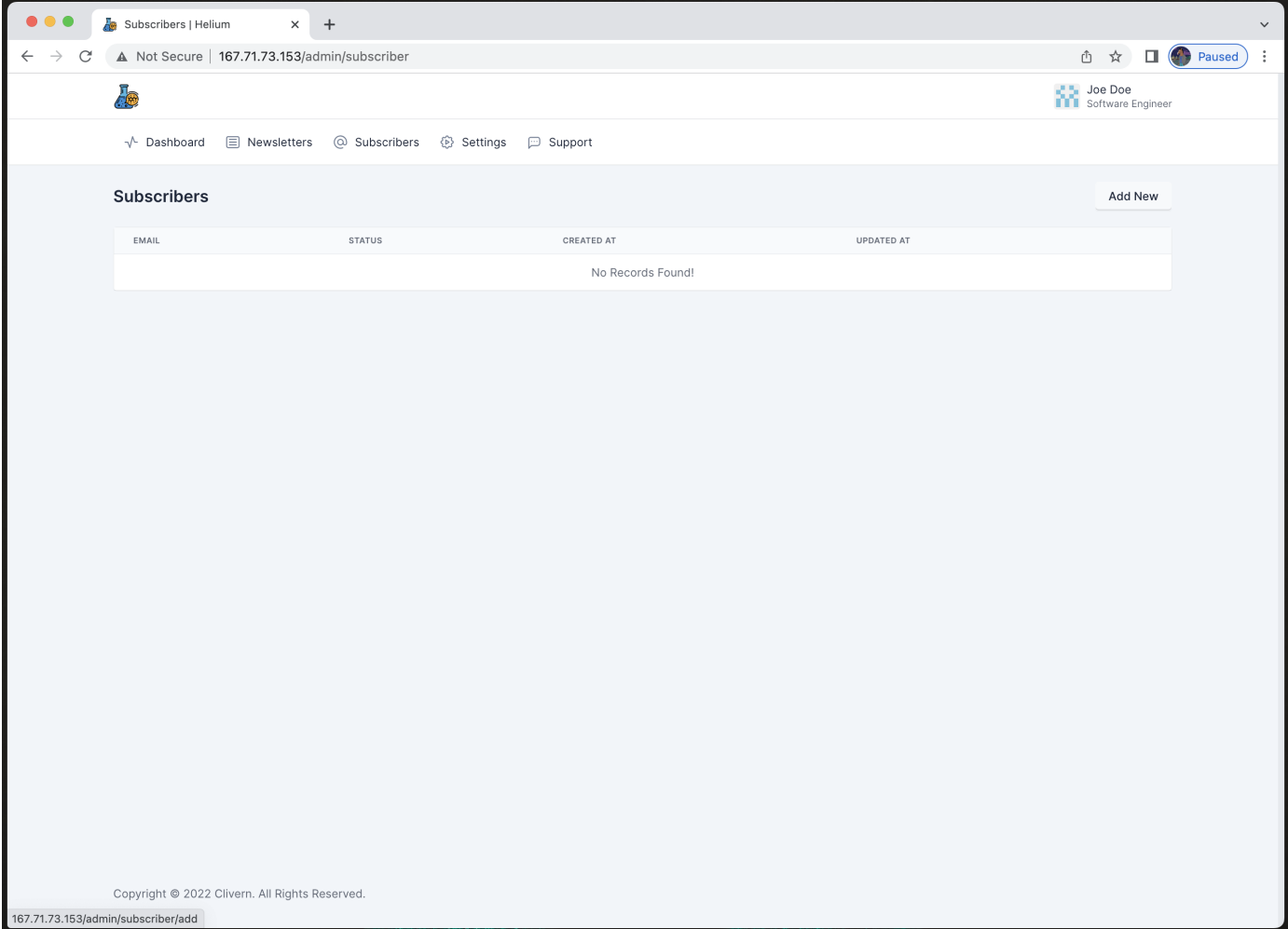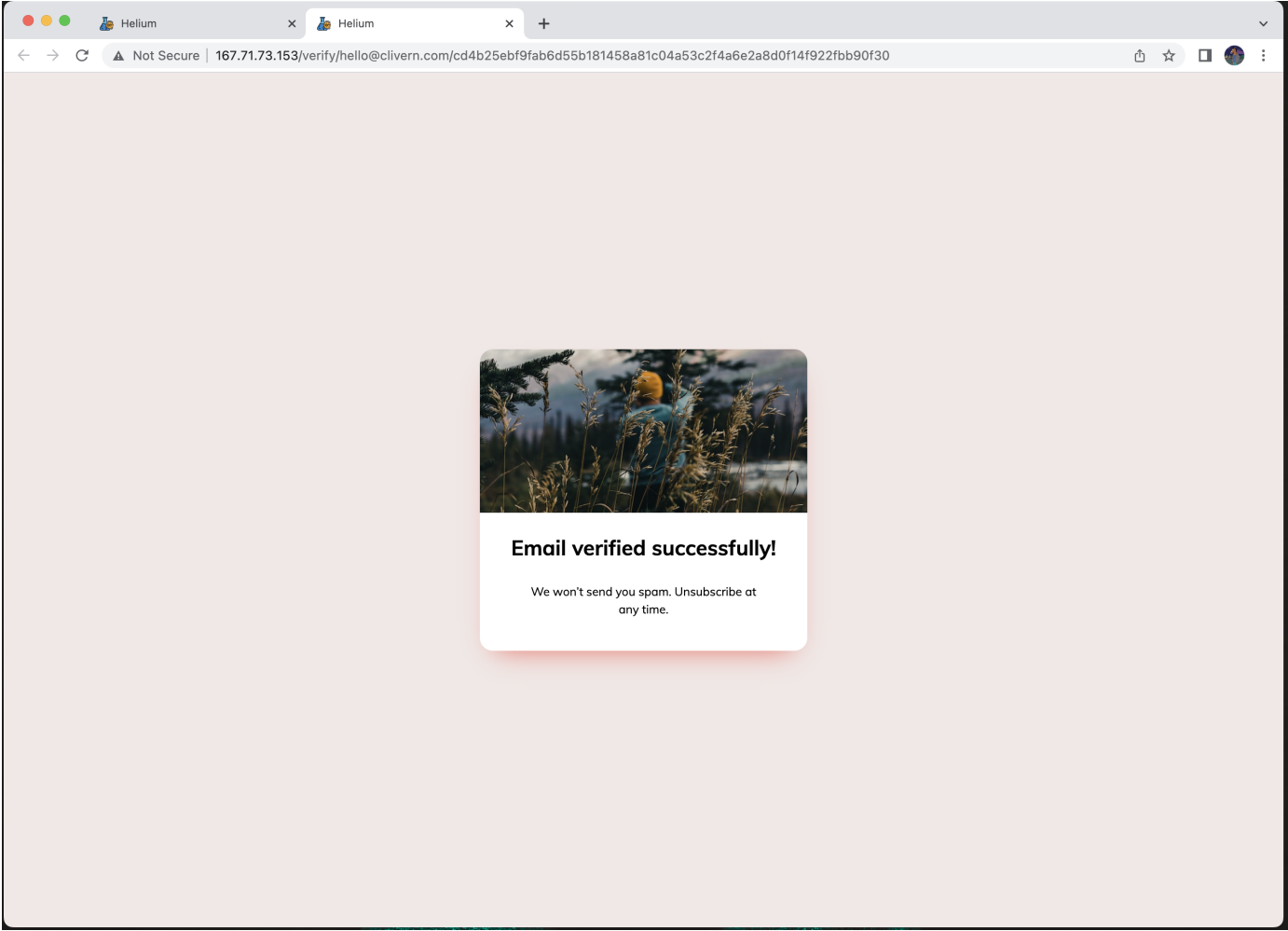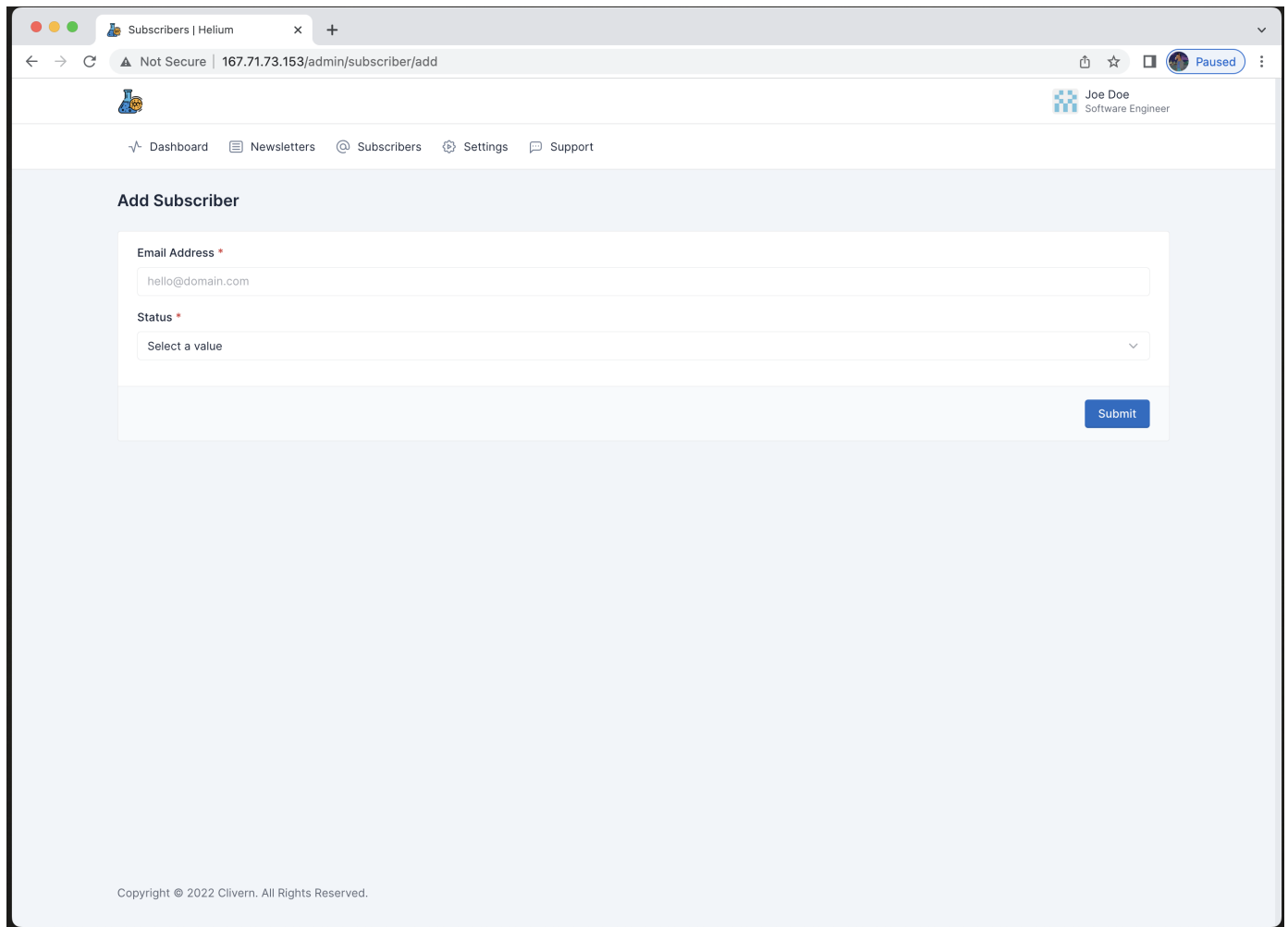
- Now we can send our first newsletter:

  - Open Newsletters then click `Add New` button.
  - Provide the newsletter name for example `PHP Weekly Newsletter`
  - Select delivery to be now or anytime in the future.
  - Select Template, the default values will show on template Inputs, you must change these values to your linking.
  - A button preview will show up once you update either the template or inputs to view the newsletter.
  - For more info how these template works, please check the advanced section.
  - Once you click submit with a delivery now, Helium will start sending emails immediately.

Joe Doe
Software Engineer

Dashboard   Newsletters   Subscribers   Settings   Support

Newsletter

Add New

NAME	DELIVERY STATUS	DELIVERY TYPE	CREATED AT	UPDATED AT
		No Records Found!		

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167.71.73.153/admin/newsletter

Joe Doe
Software Engineer

Dashboard   Newsletters   Subscribers   Settings   Support

Add Newsletter

Name *

PHP Weekly Newsletter

From Address *

hello@clivern.com

Delivery Type *

Select a value

Template *

Select a template

Template Inputs *

The inputs in a YAML format

Submit

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Advanced

1. *Which template engine helium is using?*

`Helium` uses the symfony default templating engine `Twig`. Here is a guide how to use twig

2. *How to build a new home page template?*

By default helium scans the `templates/default/page/home.$layout.html.twig`. To create a new layout called creative. create a new file `templates/default/page/home.creative.html.twig` from `templates/default/page/home.default.html.twig`. then customize the look and feel.

You can activate the new layout from the dashboard > settings page, select the `creative` layout.

3. *How to build a new newsletter email template?*

Let's create a new newsletter template for product updates. First we create `templates/default/newsletter/product_updates.distro.html.twig` and `templates/default/newsletter/product_updates.distro.yml`.

By default the following variables are available to be used in your newsletter template

- `app_name`
- `app_url`
- `data.unsubscribe_url`

You can define some dynamic data in `templates/default/newsletter/product_updates.distro.yml`

```yaml
logo_url: 'https://via.placeholder.com/360x170'

updates:
  -
    title: How to Setup a HA Cassandra Cluster
    img_url: 'https://via.placeholder.com/1200x700'
    link: 'https://clivern.com/how-to-setup-a-ha-cassandra-cluster/'
    description: >-
      Apache Cassandra is a NoSQL database with flexible deployment options
that's
      highly performant (especially for writes), scalable, fault-tolerant, and
      proven in production. Alternative NoSQL databases include Amazon
DynamoDB,
      Apache HBase, and MongoDB.
  -
    title: How to Setup a HA Cassandra Cluster
    img_url: 'https://via.placeholder.com/1200x700'
    link: 'https://clivern.com/how-to-setup-a-ha-cassandra-cluster/'
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DynamoDB,
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  -
    title: How to Setup a HA Cassandra Cluster
    img_url: 'https://via.placeholder.com/1200x700'
    link: 'https://clivern.com/how-to-setup-a-ha-cassandra-cluster/'
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      Apache Cassandra is a NoSQL database with flexible deployment options
that's
      highly performant (especially for writes), scalable, fault-tolerant, and
      proven in production. Alternative NoSQL databases include Amazon
DynamoDB,
      Apache HBase, and MongoDB.
```

You can access the above data from the template using `data.logo_url` and `data.updates` like the following

```
{% for update in data.updates %}
    <img src="{{ update.img_url }}">
    <table>
        <tbody>
            <tr>
                <td >
                    <h1>{{ update.title }}</h1>
                    <p>{{ update.description }}</p>
                    <a href="{{ update.link }}">
                        <span>Learn more</span>
                    </a>
                </td>
            </tr>
        </tbody>
    </table>
{% endfor %}
```

Please note that all variables in the `product_updates.distro.yml` *can be accessed by data.$$*

Translation

Please translate the `messages.xlf` included with the release files and send the translated file to support@clivern.com.

Support

Please read help files included with my items before anything.

Support for my items includes:

- Answering technical questions about item's features.
- Assistance with reported bugs and issues.
- Providing updates to ensure compatibility with new software versions.
- Help with included 3rd party assets.

Support for my items do not include:

- Customization and installation services.

Please send any support request to this email support@clivern.com. We're glad to help!

Security

If you discover a security vulnerability within Helium, please send an email to
hello@clivern.com

Versioning

For transparency into our release cycle and in striving to maintain backward compatibility, Helium is maintained under the Semantic Versioning guidelines and release process is predictable and business-friendly.

See the changelog section for changelogs for each release version of Helium. It contains summaries of the most noteworthy changes made in each release.

Credits

- Symfony - PHP Framework.
- Tabler - HTML Dashboard UI Kit built on Bootstrap.
- Vuejs.
- jQuery.
- Ansible.
- mdBook.

Changelog

Version 1.0.0:

```
- Initial Release.
```

License

This project is released under codecanyon standard and extended licenses. For more info, please check this link [link](#).