Lesson 13: Deploy your production Database / Node

With Heroku and Voltage

Considerations before deploying

- Security
  - The node/app is susceptible to attacks
  - The app has ADMIN rights to your node (your funds could be stolen)
  - The activity of the wallet is not private (unless you update it to be so)
- Cost
  - There is a cost hosting the server
  - There is a cost hosting the database
  - There is a cost hosting a node
- What are your goals?
  - Are you trying to show off the mainnet wallet
  - Does testnet suffice?
  - Does it need to be live and deployed?

What is Heroku?

Heroku is a cloud platform service that allows developers to deploy, manage, and scale applications without a lot of overhead. It abstracts away the complexities of managing servers, infrastructure, and databases, allowing developers to focus purely on the code.

- Heroku is made specifically for deploying servers / databases
- Heroku has consistent performance, it's easy to setup, and easy to scale.
- Heroku used to have a basic free plan but now you need to pay a small fee for both the server and the postgres instance

What is Heroku?

Platform as a Service (PaaS): Heroku is a PaaS, which means it provides both the environment to run applications and the infrastructure to host them. Think of it like a combination of a playground and the land it's on. You bring the toys (your application), and Heroku provides the place and ensures the ground is always ready for play (auto-maintenance, updates, etc.).

Simple Deployment: Deploying an application to Heroku is often as simple as pushing your code using Git. You can think of it like uploading your photos to a cloud service, but in this case, it's your application's code.

Supports Multiple Languages: Heroku supports several programming languages like Ruby, Java, Python, Node.js, and more. It's like a multi-cuisine restaurant where you can bring recipes (code) from different cuisines (programming languages) and expect them to be cooked (run) perfectly.

Dynos: Heroku uses containers called "dynos" to run applications. Imagine these as individual mini-computers within a big computer. Each one can run your application independently, and you can have many of them to handle more users.

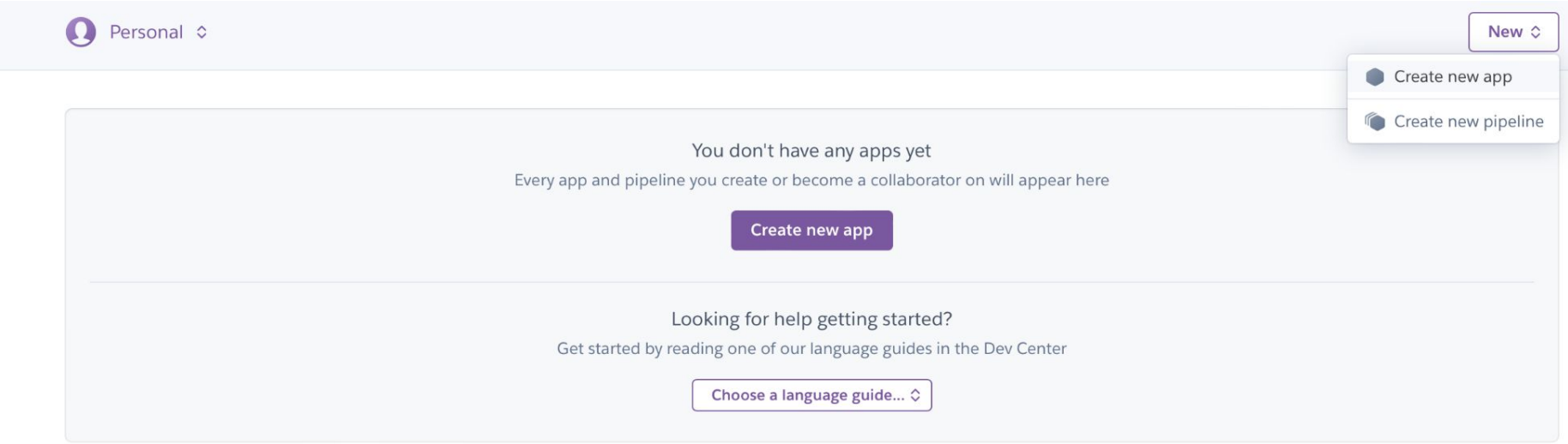
Add-ons: Heroku provides a marketplace of add-ons (services and tools) that you can attach to your applications. It's like adding extra toppings on a pizza. Need a database? Add it! Need email services? Add that too!

Scalability: If your application becomes popular and receives more traffic, Heroku can easily scale up to handle the load. It's like having a magic room that expands when more guests arrive.

Steps to deploying our server / database

1. Create a new Heroku ‘App’
2. Connect our backend repo
3. Add a web ‘Dyno’
4. Add Postgres Buildpack
5. Setup secret ENV variables
6. Deploy server
7. Test calling the root endpoint
8. Test creating an admin user
9. Test getting all users

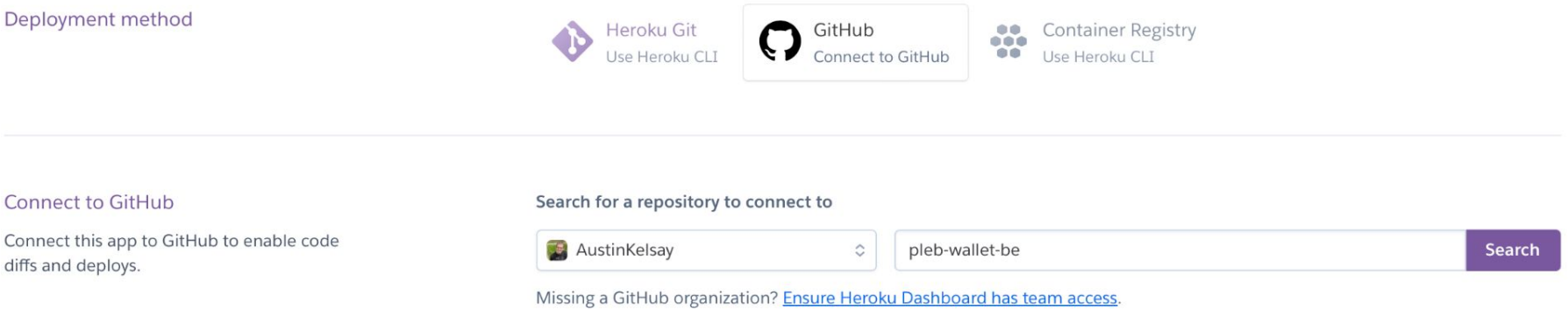
Creating our Heroku app



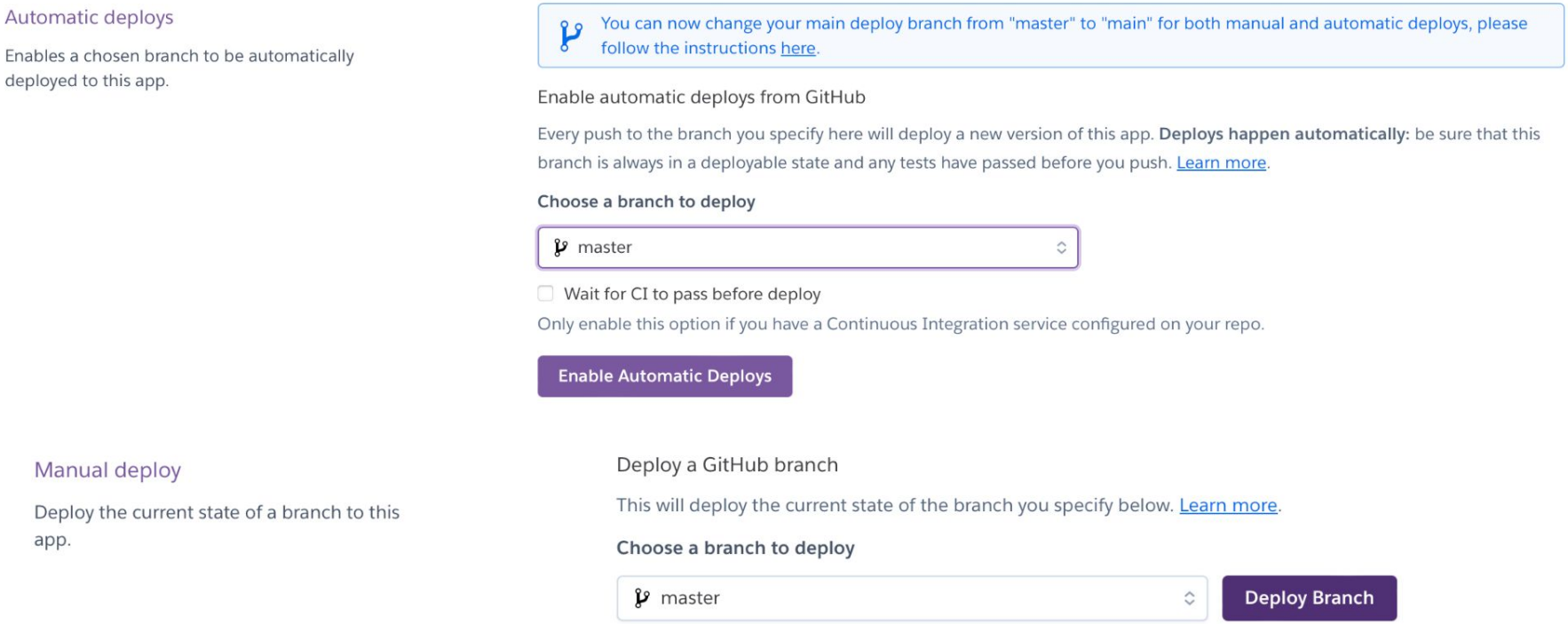
Connecting Heroku to our backend code

Go to the ‘Deploy’ tab and select Github as your deployment method and add the pleb-wallet-be as the repo.

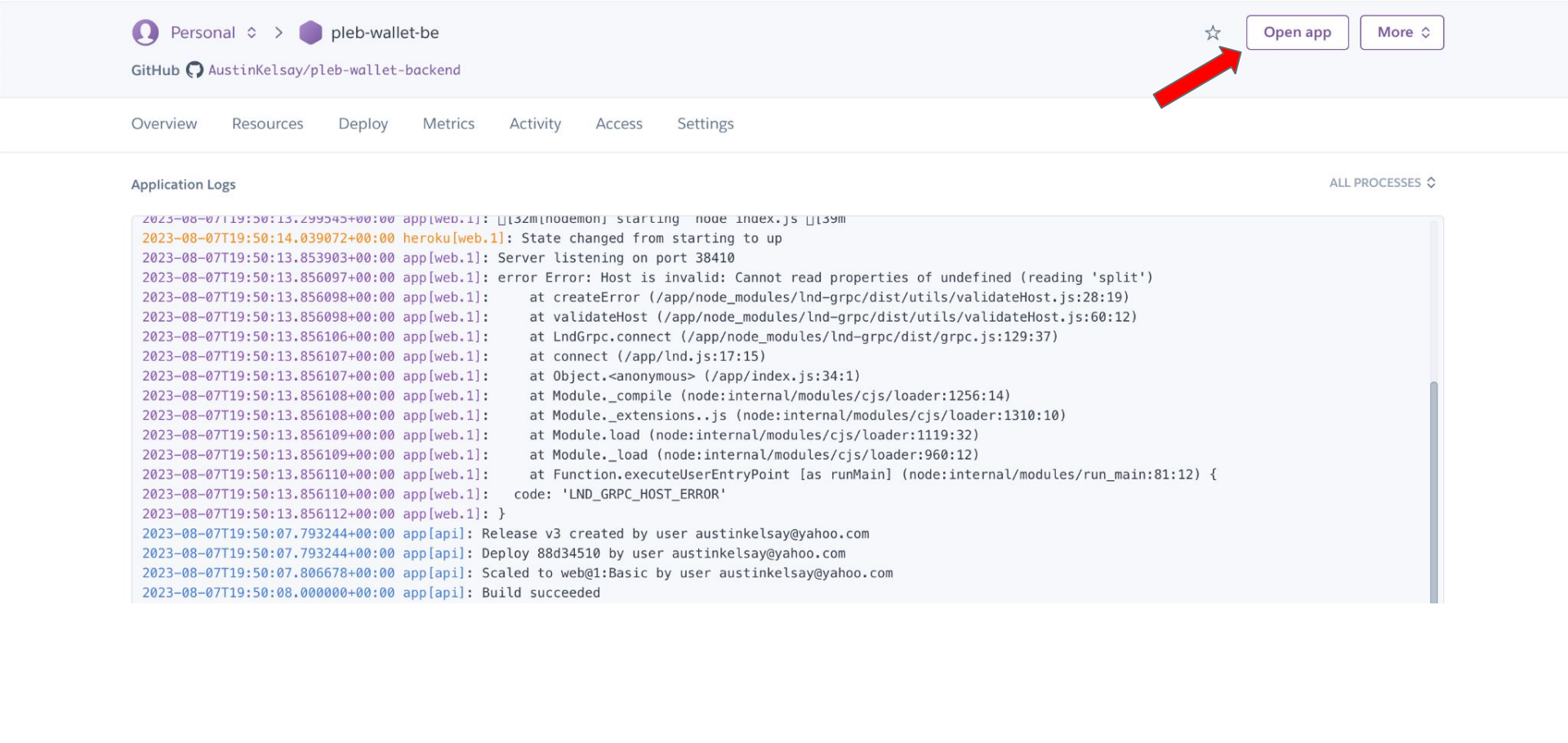
Now hit deploy!



Deploying our backend code



Watching the logs and testing the root endpoint



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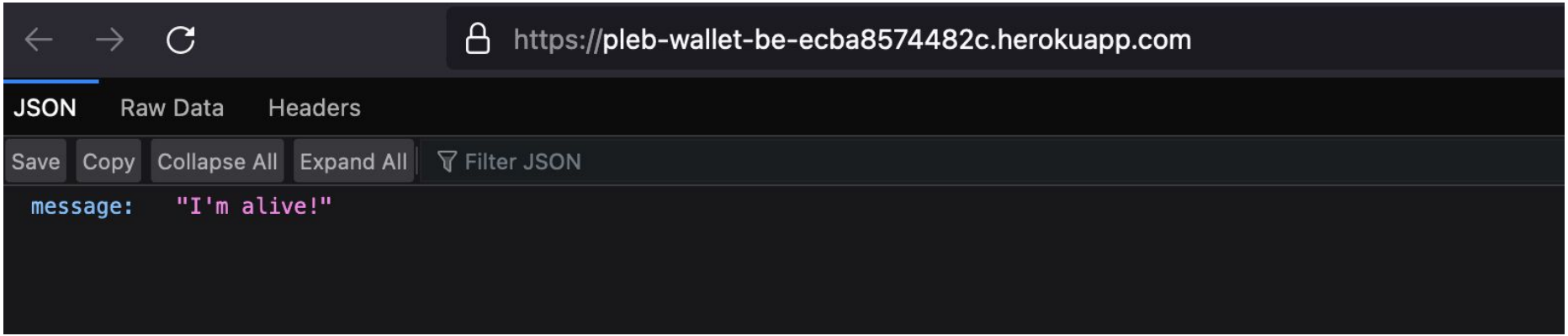


Express rate limit error

If you get this error:

```
2023-10-24T19:50:34.151543+00:00 app[web.1]: ValidationError: The 'X-Forwarded-For' header is set but the Express 'trust proxy' setting is false (default). This
could indicate a misconfiguration which would prevent express-rate-limit from accurately identifying users. See https://express-rate-limit.github.io
/ERR_ERL_UNEXPECTED_X_FORWARDED_FOR/ for more information.
```

Update index.js like so:

```
// Create a new instance of the Express server
const server = express();

// Trust X-Forwarded-* headers
server.set('trust proxy', 1);
```

The error message you're seeing is due to the fact that you're deploying your application behind a reverse proxy (like many cloud hosting solutions do), and `express-rate-limit` is warning you that it might not be getting the correct client IP addresses.

The above tells Express to trust the first proxy it connects to. If your app is behind multiple proxies, you can set `'trust proxy'` to the number of proxy servers or `'loopback'` to trust all proxies.

Invoice datetime error

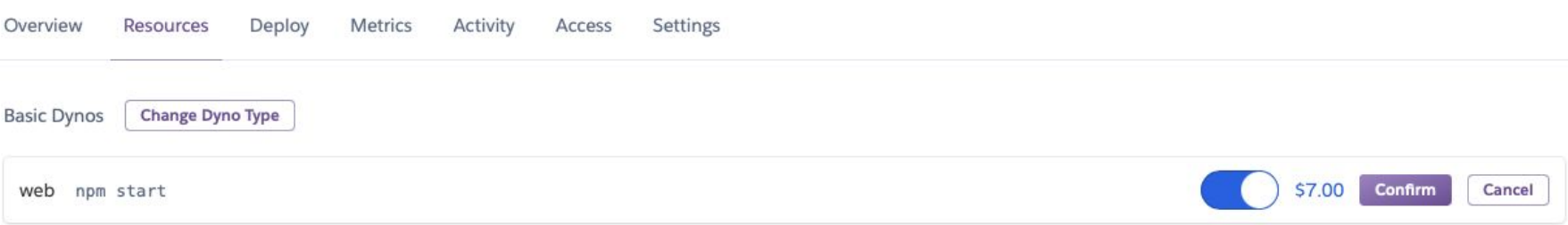
While we're already fixing bugs let's look into this one I got when testing the deployment: error: update "invoices" set "settled" = $1, "settle_date" = $2 where "payment_request" = $3 returning * - date/time field value out of range: "1698189002"

Our db schema is expecting a longer 'UNIX' timestamp:

Fix in lnd.js:

```
// If the invoice exists, update it in the database
       if (existingInvoice) {
         const settleDate = new Date(data.settle_data *
1000).toISOString();
         await Invoice.update(data.payment_request, {
           settled: data.settled,
           settle_date: settleDate,
         });
       } else {
         console.log("Invoice not found in the database");
       }
```

Enabling a basic web 'Dyno'



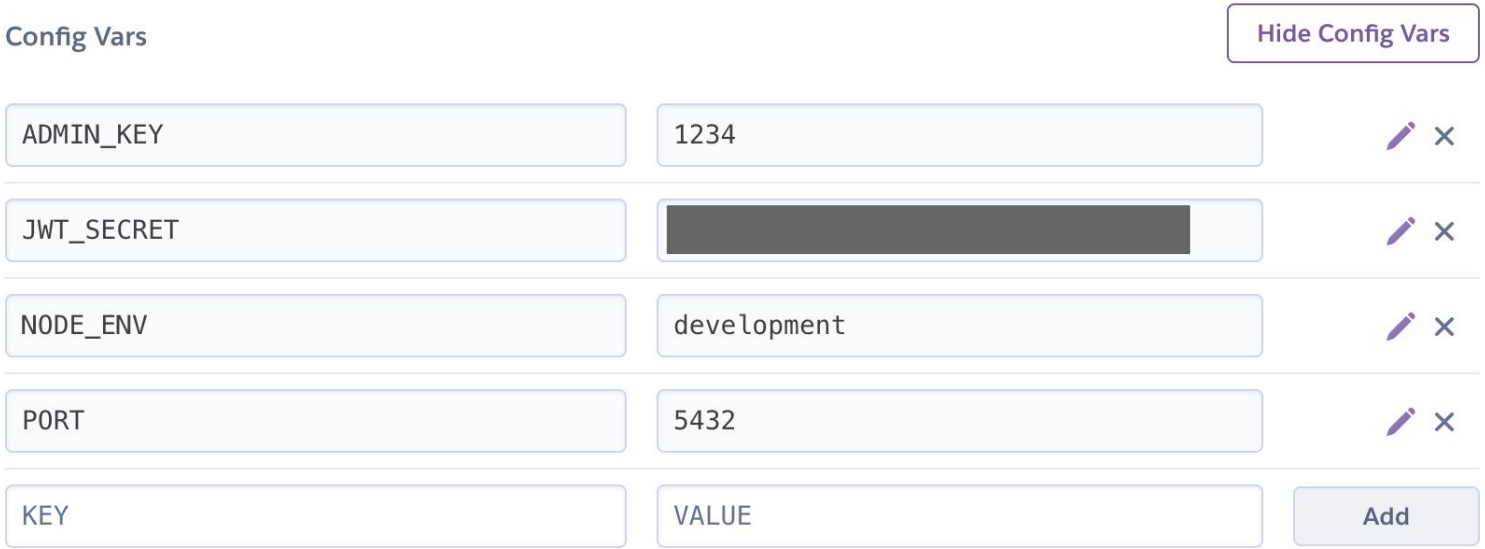
What are Dynos on Heroku? https://www.heroku.com/dynos

Put simply Dynos are the isolated instances of your server that run on hardware in the cloud

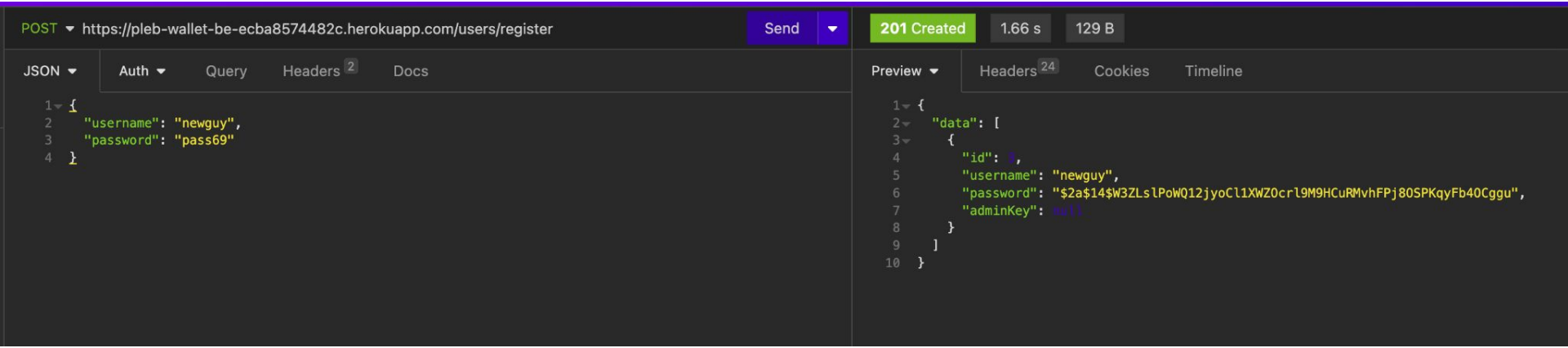
Adding ENV secrets

Click “Reveal Config Vars” and add new secure secrets for both ADMIN_KEY and JWT_SECRET

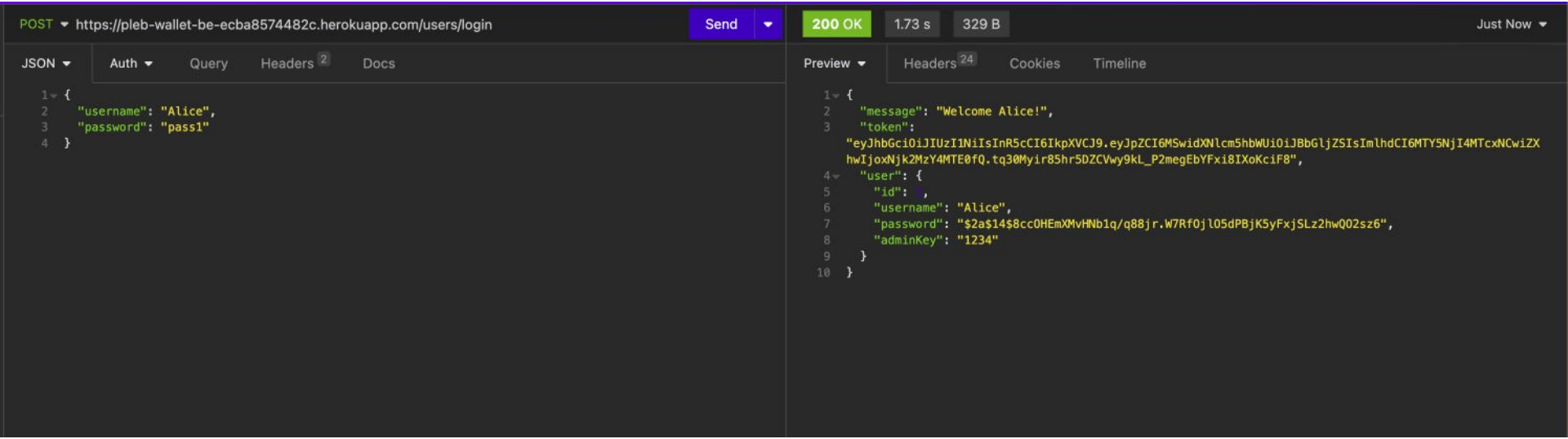
Later we will add more config Vars for our Lightning node once we deploy it



Create a new user

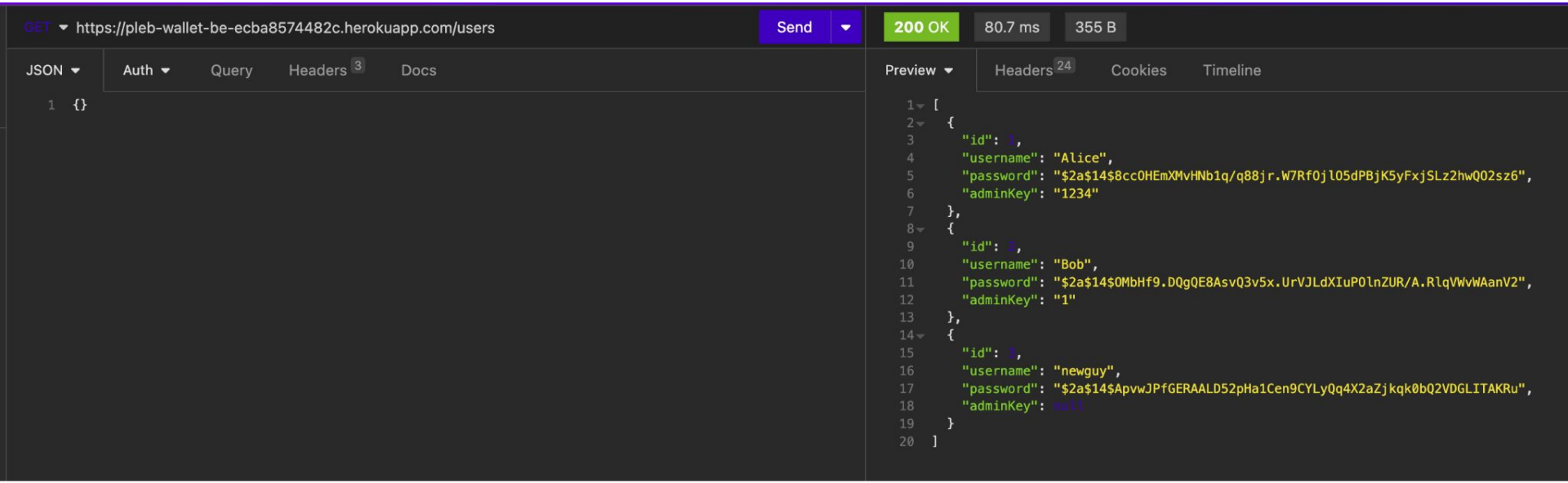


Test the login endpoint with a “seeded” user



Get all users and see our newly created user

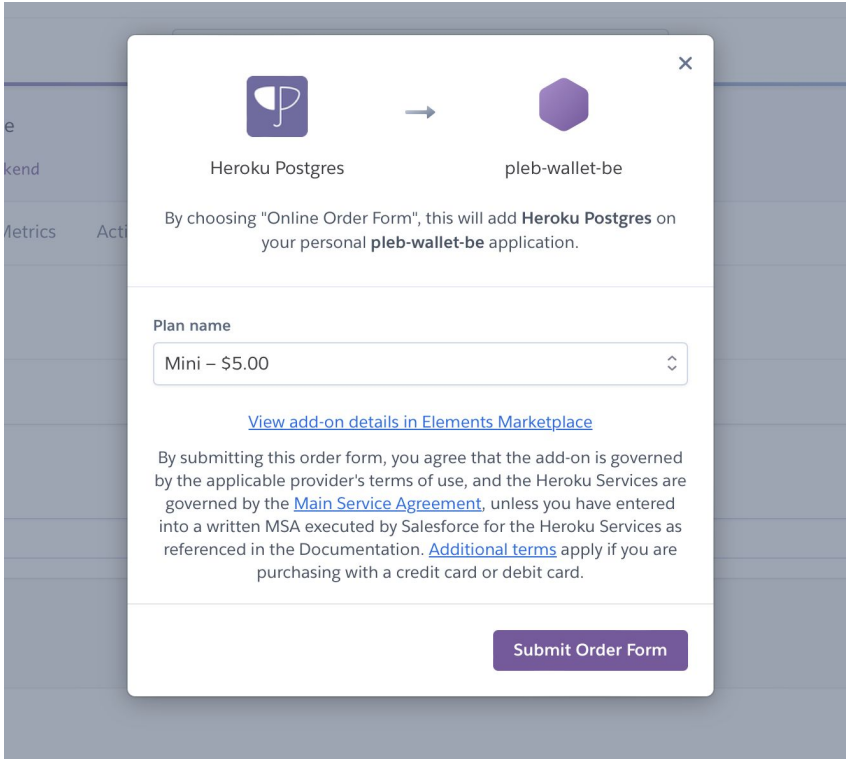
The database is working!



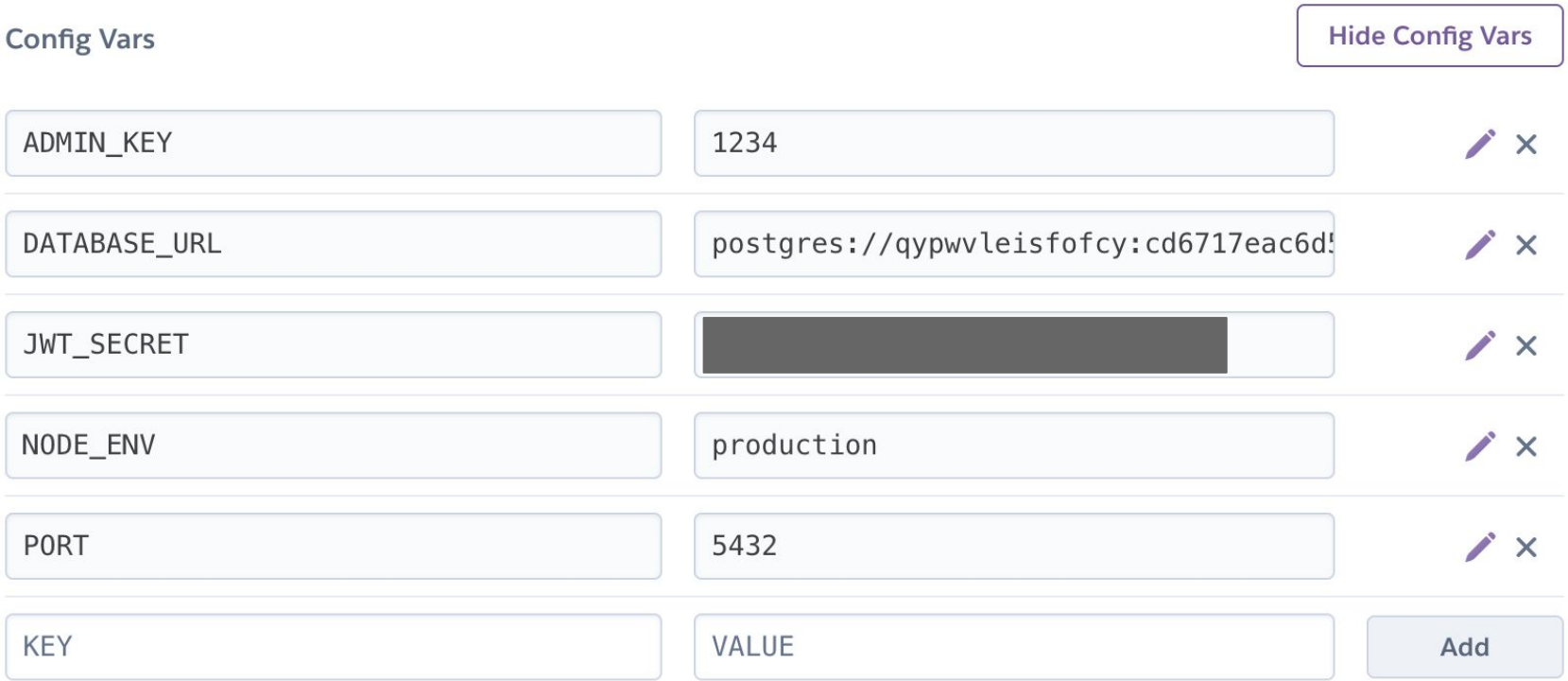
Adding Postgres Buildpack

Click on “Resources” tab and search for Heroku Postgres

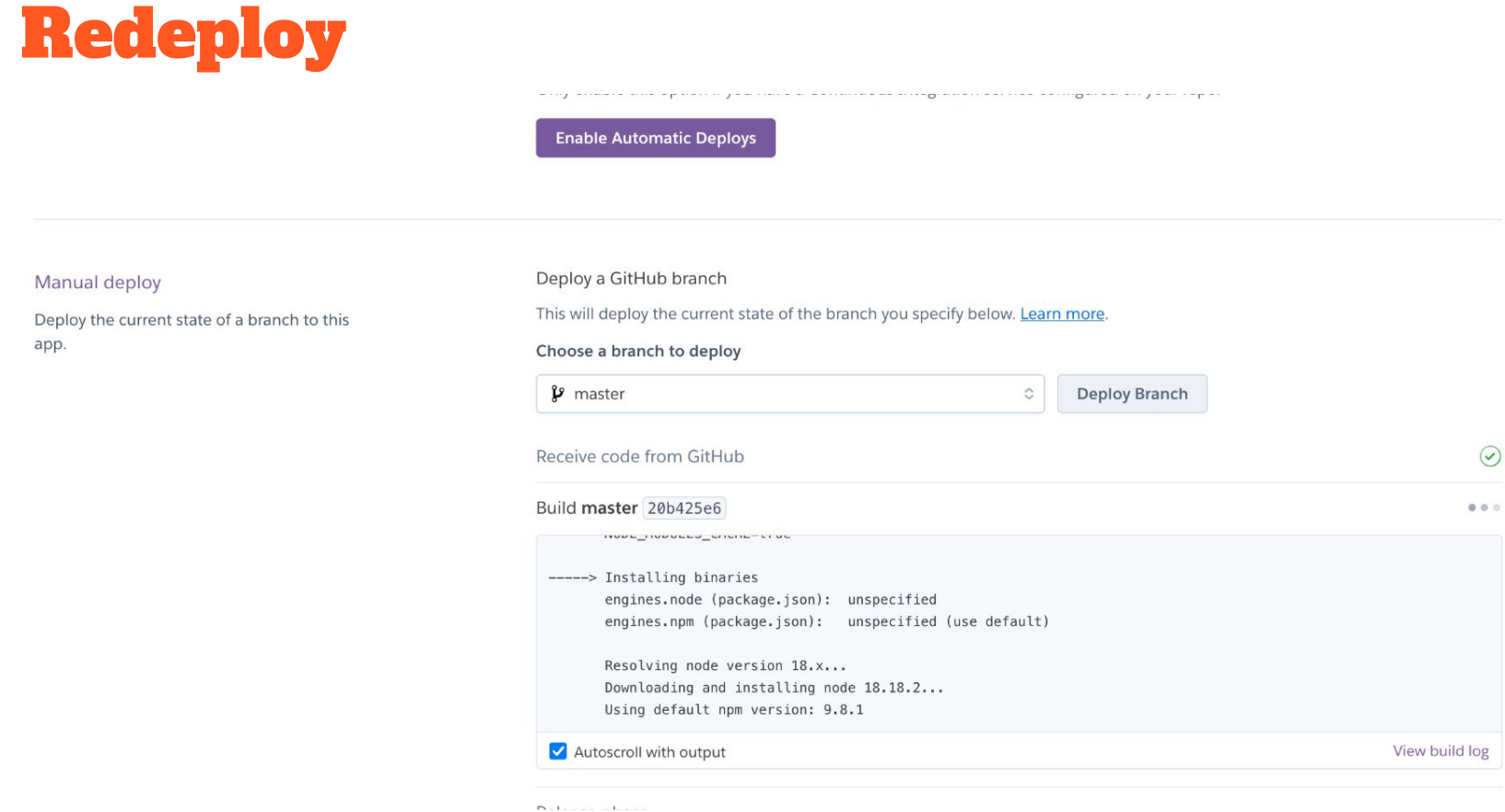
(Sadly Heroku has raised prices so it’s 5$ a month for a pg database)



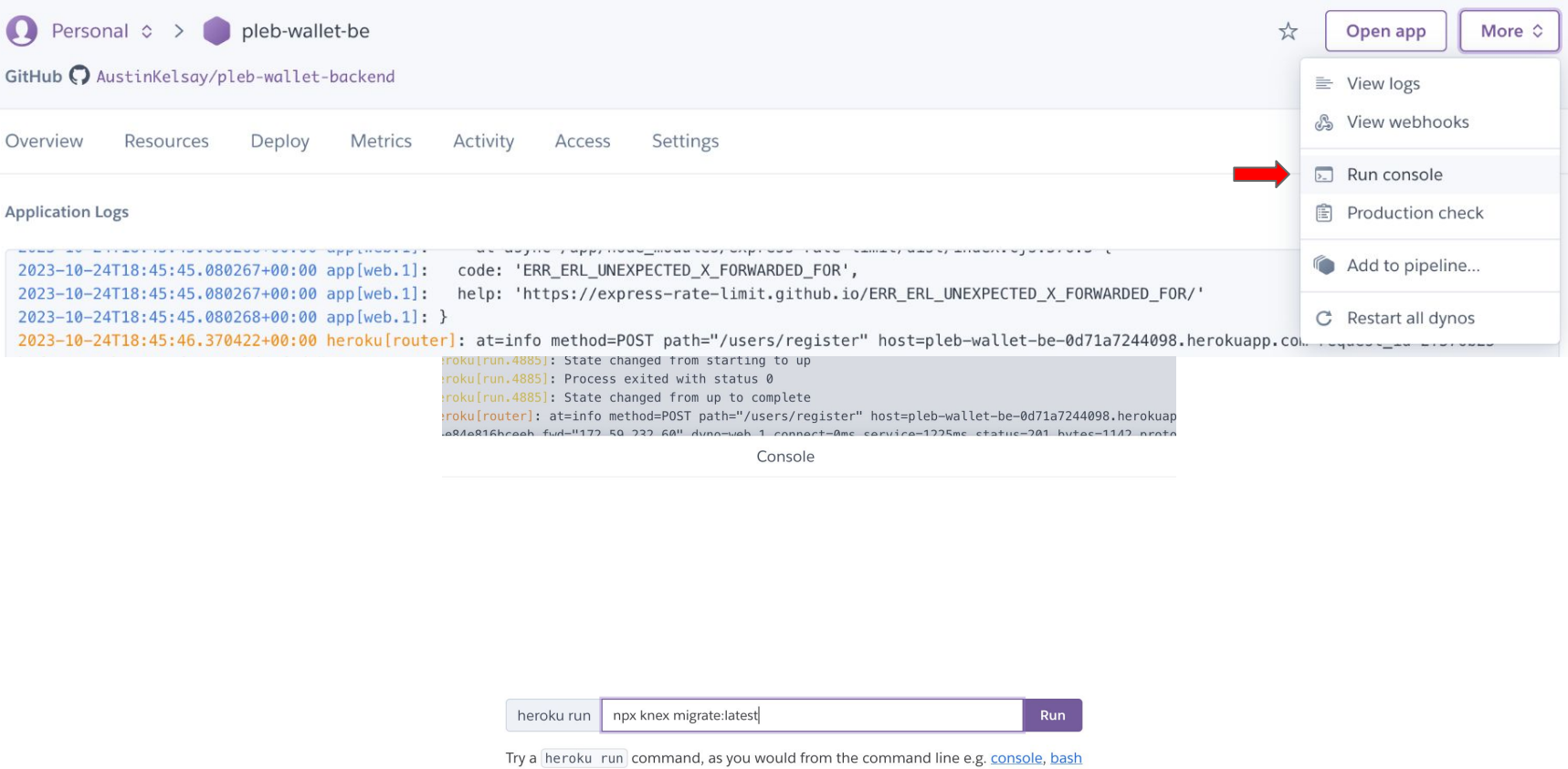
Database url env variable should be added



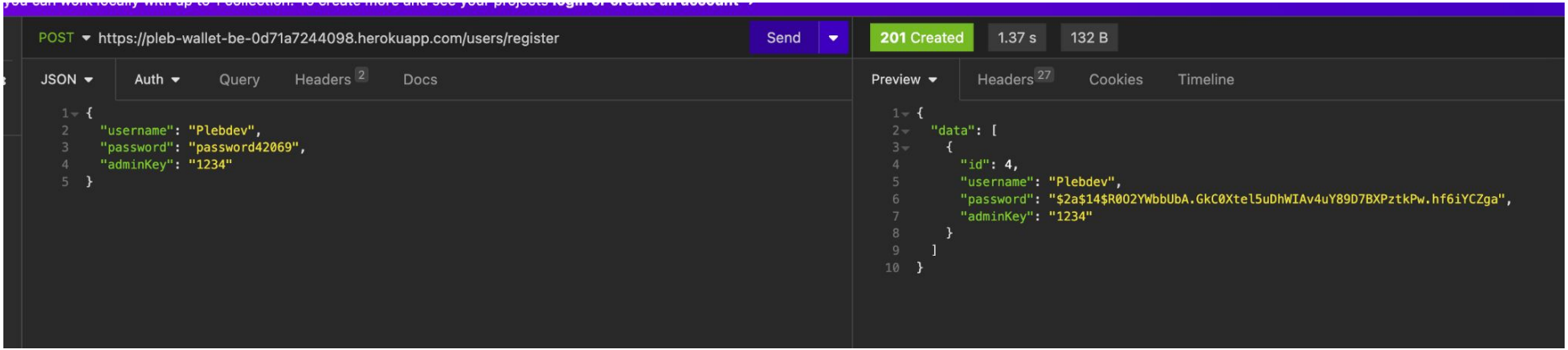
Redeploy


Enable Automatic Deploys
Manual deploy
Deploy the current state of a branch to this app.
Deploy a GitHub branch
This will deploy the current state of the branch you specify below. Learn more.
Choose a branch to deploy
master
Deploy Branch
Receive code from GitHub
Build master 20b425e6
-----> Installing binaries
engines.node (package.json): unspecified
engines.npm (package.json): unspecified (use default)
Resolving node version 18.x...
Downloading and installing node 18.18.2...
Using default npm version: 9.8.1
Autoscroll with output
View build log

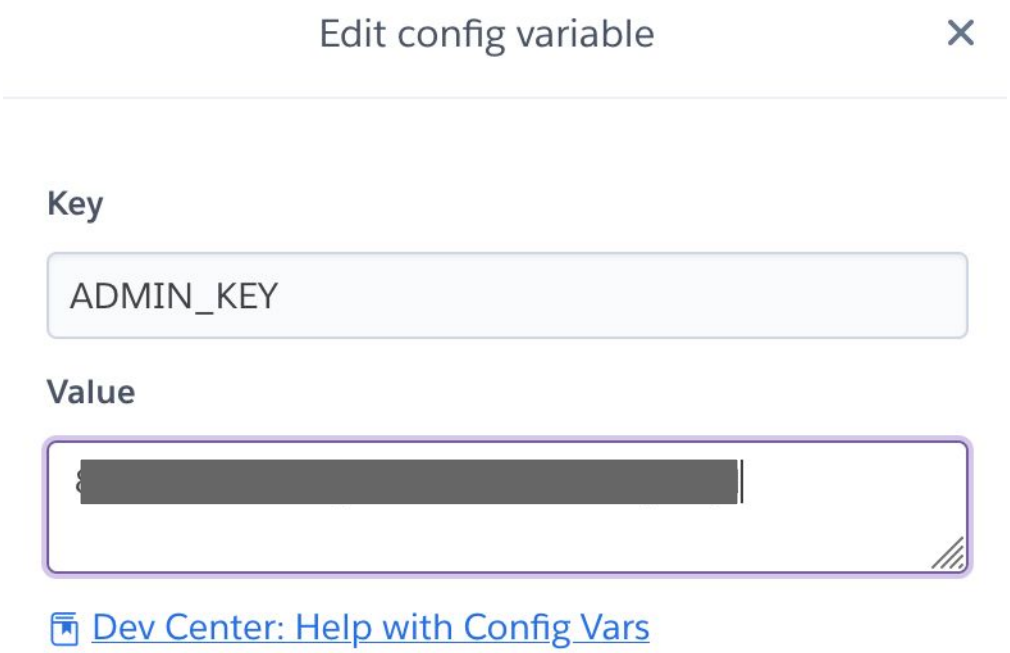
Run migration



Create a admin user in your production db then login and check all users again



Now update your adminKey and JWT if you haven't to be secure secrets

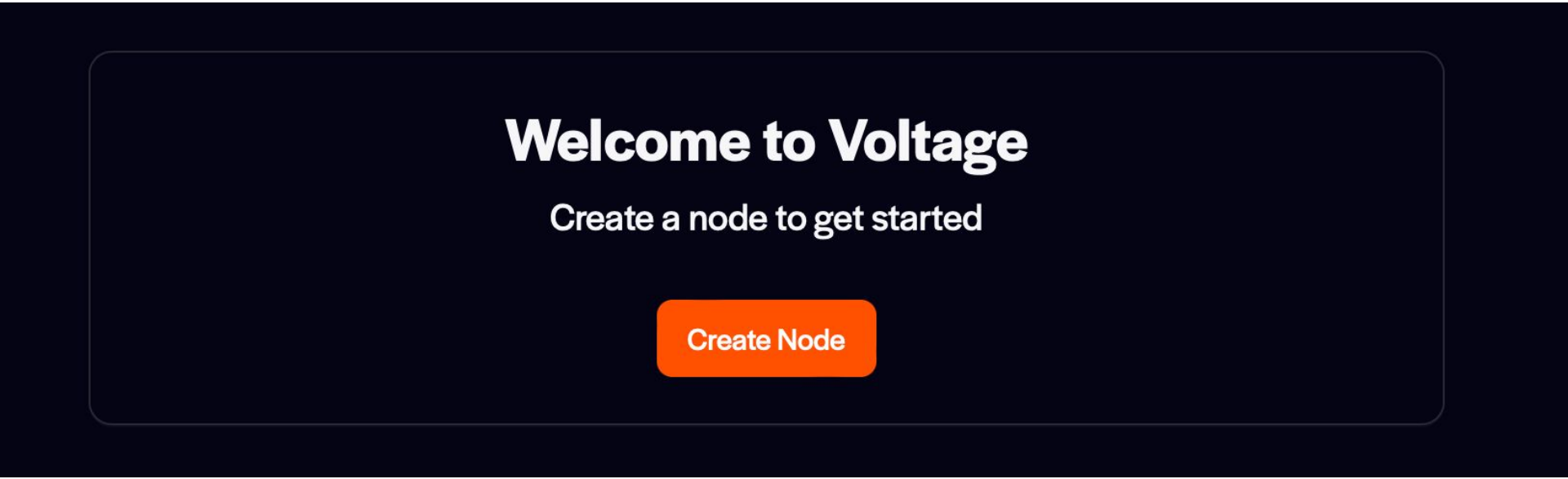


Deploy a Production Lightning node

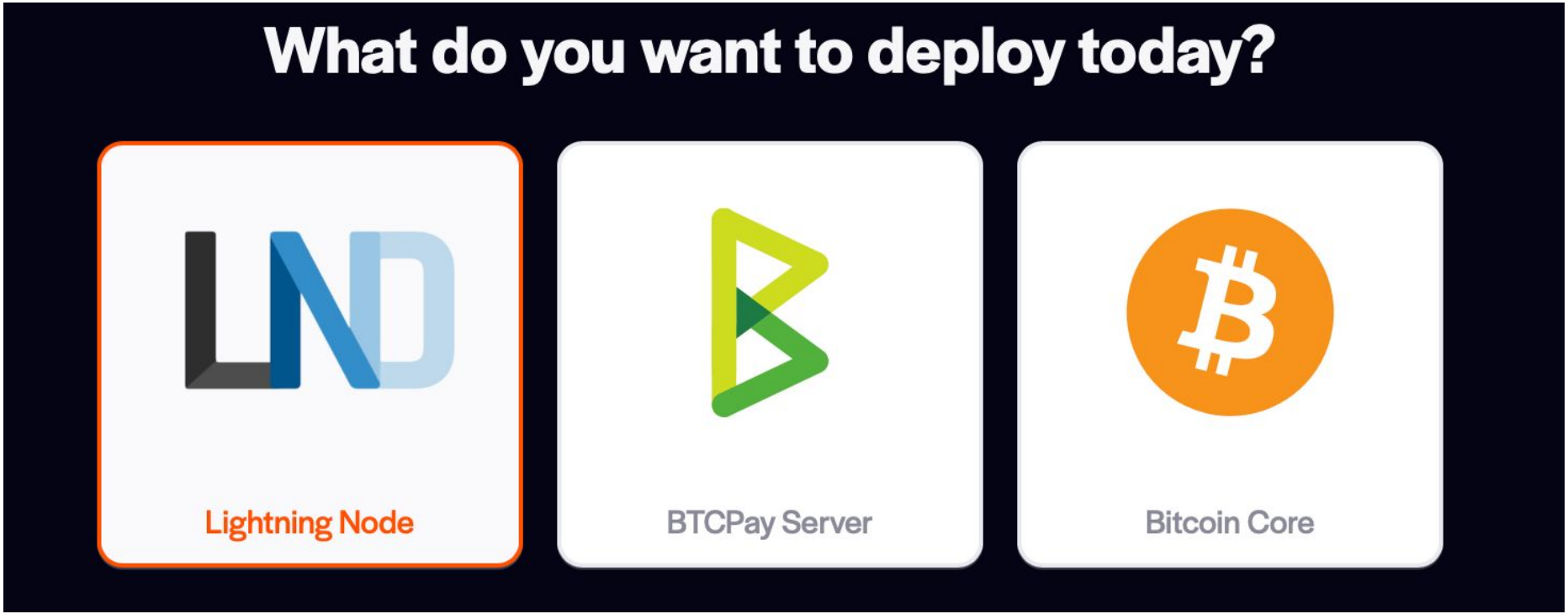
With Voltage

Create a node

- Visit https://nodes.voltage.cloud
- Click ‘Create Node’

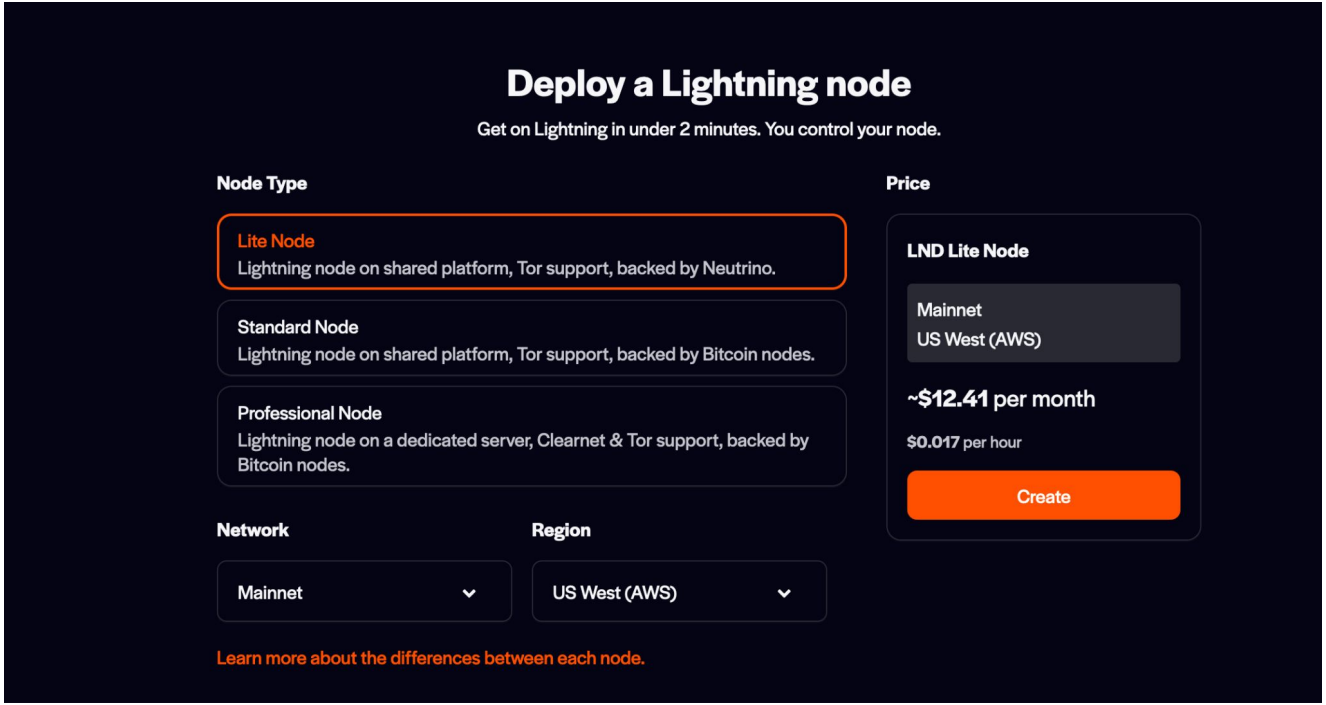


Choose LND


What do you want to deploy today?
Lightning Node
BTCPay Server
Bitcoin Core

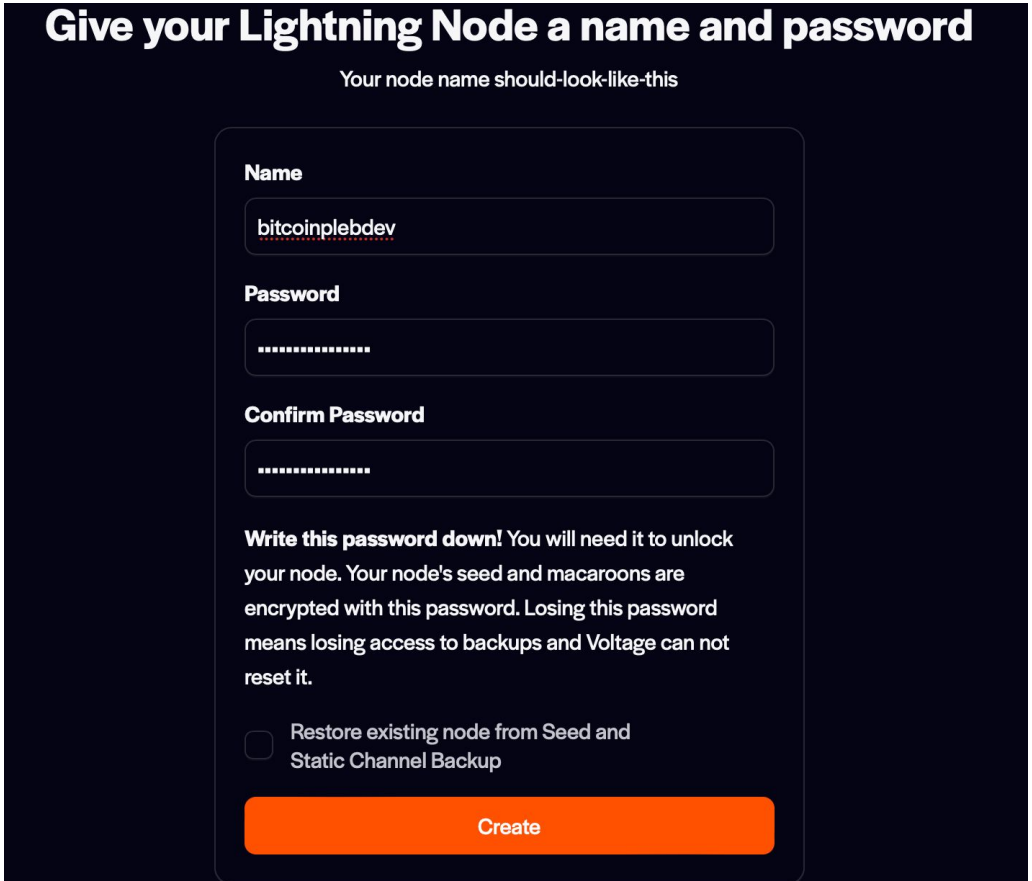
Choose your node type

You can pick a Lite Node to start and use testnet if you want to do further testing but we will use mainnet to start ripping some real invoices



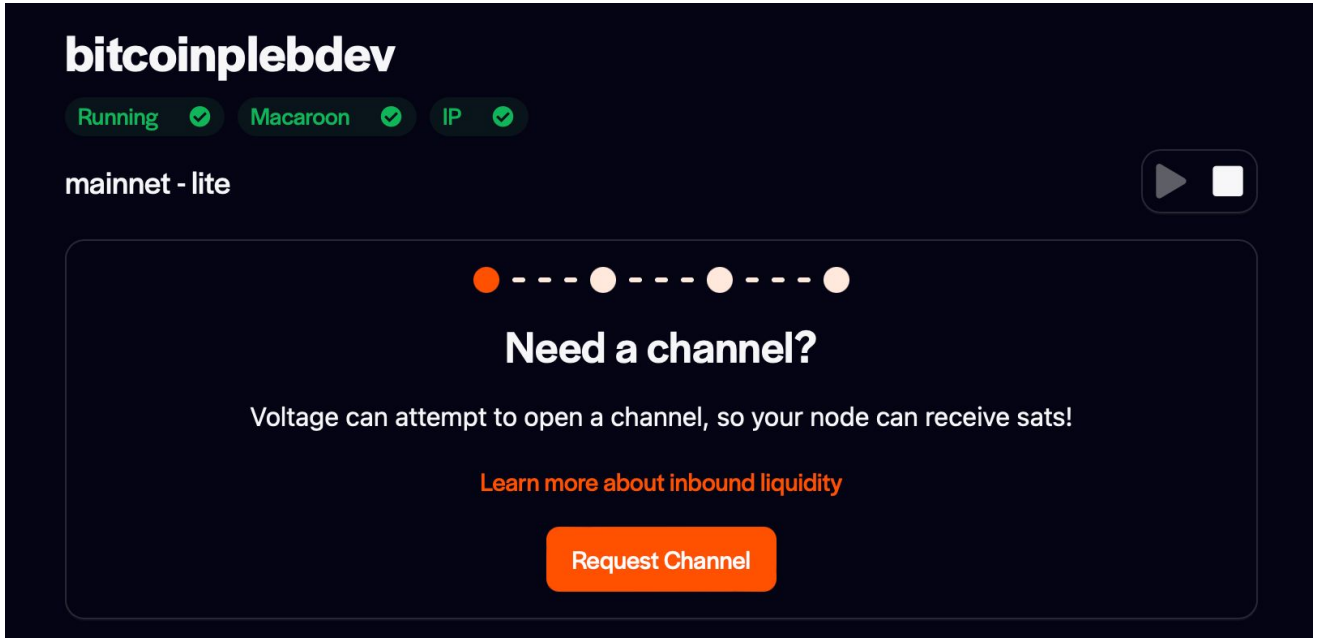
Create a username/password for your node

And be sure to write them down!



Get free inbound channel

After your node is done initializing you should see this message on your node's home page to request a free inbound channel! This will allow us to instantly start receiving sats into our pleb-wallet from the wider network.



Update our connection options to use LNDConnect

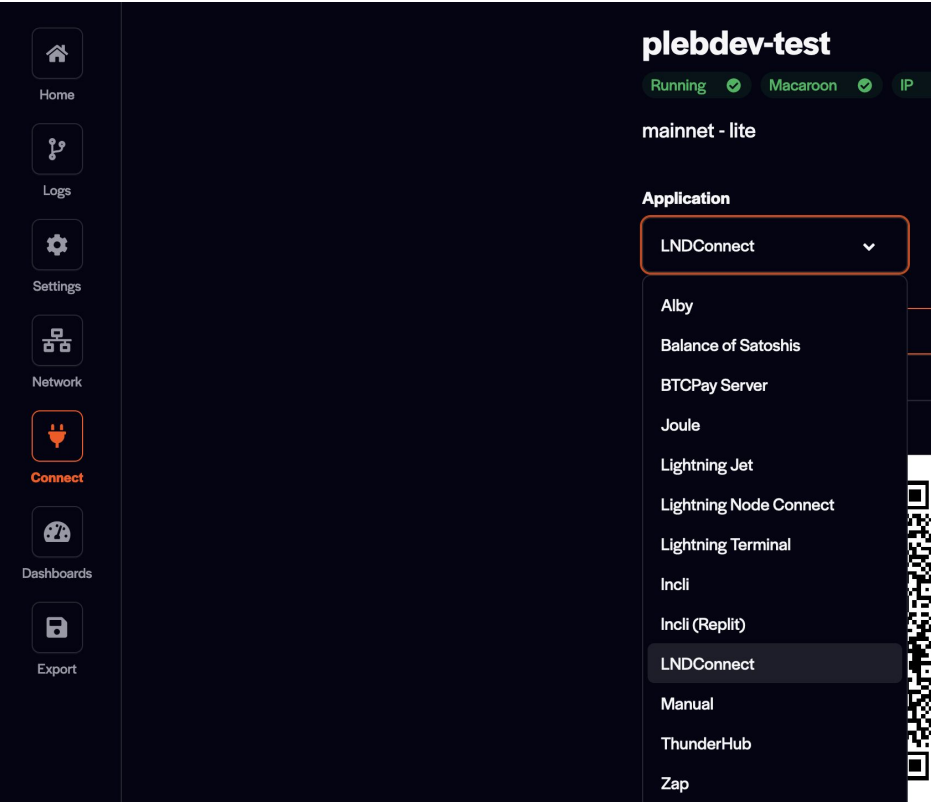
Lightning Node Connect (LNC) is a novel mechanism to create an end-to-end encrypted connection between a Lightning Network node (initially just LND, other implementations might follow) and a web browser.

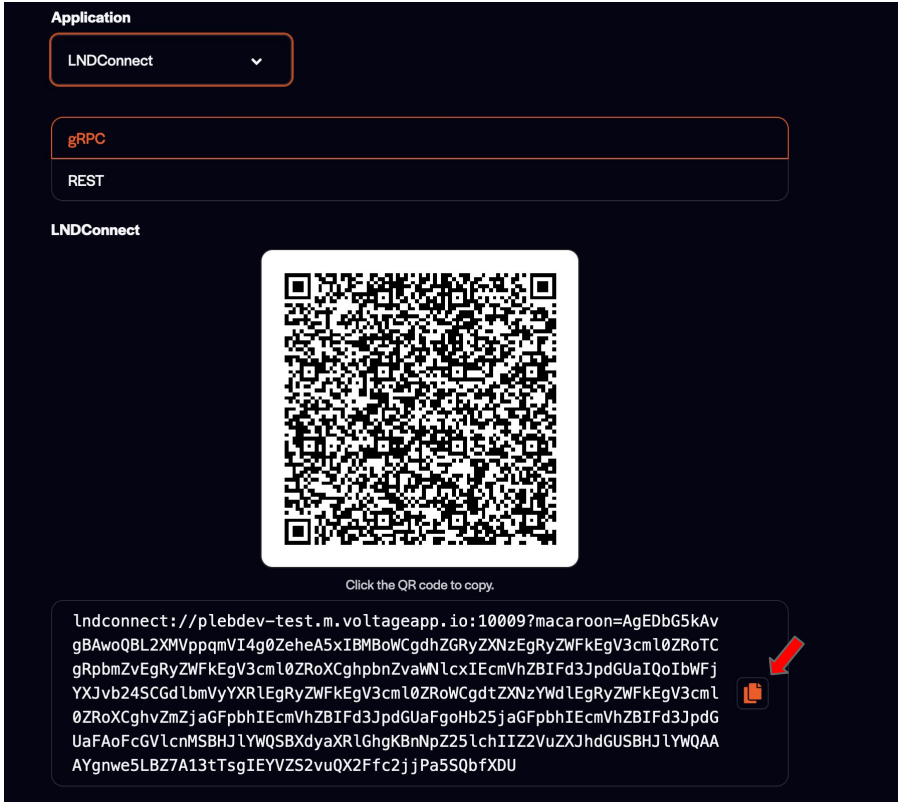
This will replace our HOST, CERT, and MACAROON env variables and combine all of that information into a single URI

```
const options = {
  lndconnectUri: process.env.LND_CONNECT_URI
};

const lnd = new LndGrpc(options);
```

Grab a new LNDConnect URI from the Voltage connections dropdown



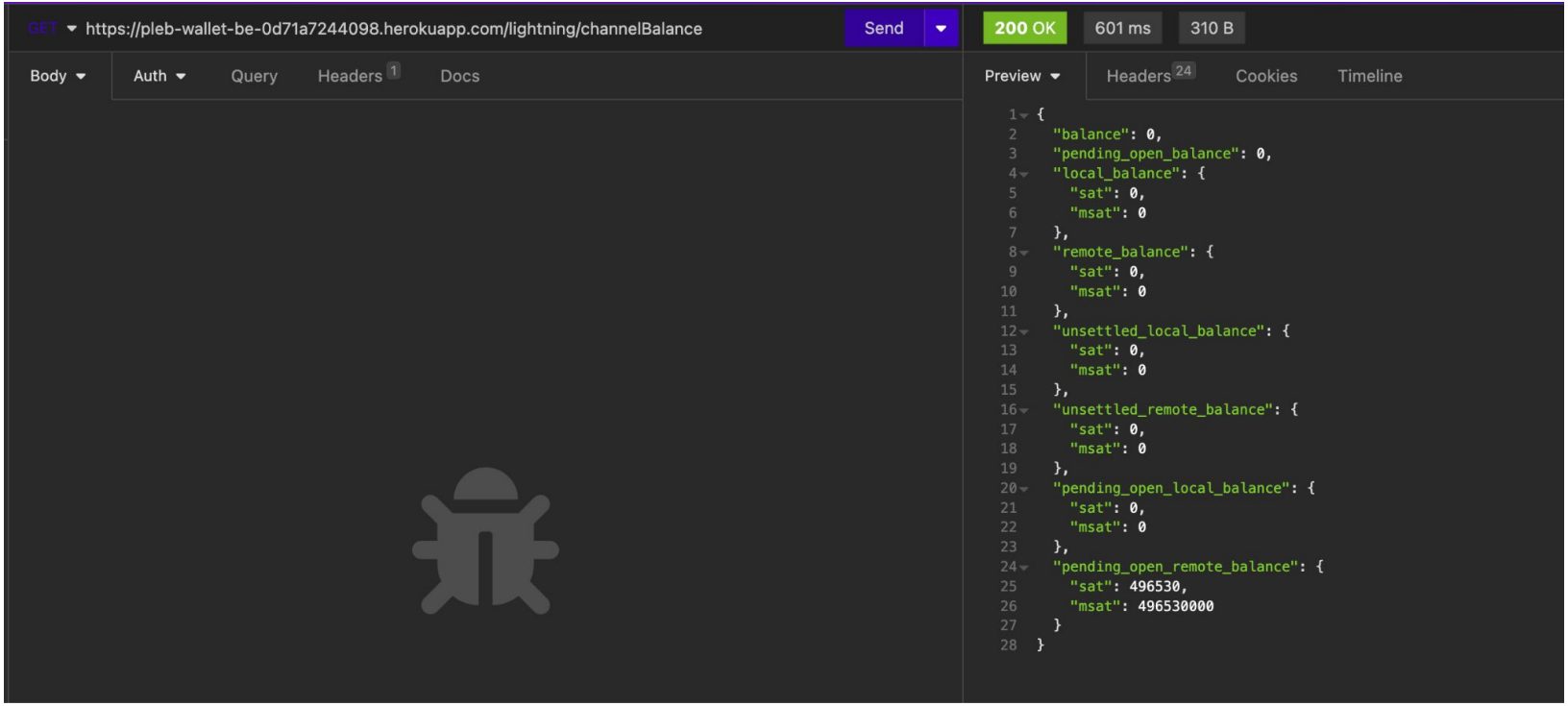


Add LND_CONNECT_URI to ENV variables

This should be the full set off all of your ENV variables now

Redeploy and test a lightning endpoint

After redeploying we should now be able to call our /lightning/channelBalance endpoint



Our production Server / DB / Node are deployed!

Everything is deployed in production and working!

Final step testing with the deployed frontend

- Deploy https://github.com/AustinKelsay/pleb-wallet-frontend to vercel
- Add the REACT_APP_BACKEND_URL env variable on the vercel deployment and put it as the deployed backend
- Go through the full flow testing an admin and non admin user on the deployed frontend